

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

LONDON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1888.

MILFORD LANE } STRAND.—No. 377

THIRD EDITION.
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE,
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

THE SITUATION AT SUAKIN.

Osman Digma Preparing for Flight.

The Tribes Tired of War.

Another cavalry reconnaissance from Suakin was made on Wednesday. The Hussars and Mounted Infantry went out towards Hishen, and upon their way back rode through Tofrik. This is the longest patrol that has yet been made. They met with no enemy on their route, and the general opinion is that the dervishes have fallen back for some distance, and will not again approach this neighbourhood until they learn that the bulk of the troops have left Suakin. One prisoner—who, however, was coming in—was taken, and two deserters arrived in camp. They report that there are a large number of wounded at Handoub, and that Osman Digma is sending away his women to Erkowitz, preparatory to "bolting" towards the Nile. The local sheikhs, a correspondent says, are again pressing strongly for an advance by our troops to Handoub. The chief of the Gamilabas offers, if we will make this movement, to co-operate with a thousand warriors, and promises that, if once driven on, Osman Digma shall never again be allowed to return. All their people, they declare, are tired of war, and want trade to be re-opened, but they are afraid of the organised band of dervishes.

THE INDIAN NATIVE CONGRESS.

ALLAHABAD, December 27.—After preliminary meetings at Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras, the Native Congress assembled here yesterday in a large park, where a hall to contain 3,000 people had been specially erected. Over 1,000 delegates from every part of India, including a great number of Mahomedans, were present. At Lucknow an immense procession accompanied the delegates to the railway station, and demonstrations were also made at other places on the departure of the delegates for Allahabad. Rajah Siva Prasad, hiterto the ally of Sir Syed Ahmed, was elected as representative of Benares. Mr. George Yule, a merchant of Calcutta, and ex-president of the Chamber of Commerce, was elected president of the congress on the motion of Sirdar Dyal Singh, the premier Sikh noble of the Punjab, in the absence of the Maharajah Durbanga through illness. The president's inaugural address complained of the present system of government and the absence of free discussion or control over the Budget charges. The speaker dealt exhaustively with the proposed reconstruction of the Legislative Councils, declaring that, as regarded an increase in the number of members, perfect unanimity of opinion prevailed, the non-official Europeans agreeing with the Indians on this point. He reminded his hearers that the late Lord Beaconsfield in 1858 suggested the election of the members of the Indian Council as a safeguard for Indian interests. In the present position of affairs the Indian Council in London had no power, while the House of Commons possessed power, but neglected to exercise it. He claimed that the concession asked was moderate—namely, that half the members of the Legislative Council should be elected, and the remainder nominated by the Government; one-fourth being officials, would remain with the executive, but he desired the establishment of a right of interpellation. The only parallel to be found in English history was 600 years ago, when Edward I., the barons, and the Commons sat together, the King and the barons holding sway. The congress was willing to leave the settlement of the details to a committee of three official Europeans and three Indian natives. Referring to the speech delivered by the Marquis of Dufferin at Calcutta on St. Andrew's Day, Mr. Yule declared that his lordship spoke with an imperfect knowledge of the facts. The proposed reform would have the effect of uniting England and India by the flexible and enduring ligaments of common interest, common duties, and common service. The speech was received with applause. Great enthusiasm prevailed throughout the proceedings, and cheers were given for the Empress of India. Portraits of her Majesty were displayed at the entrance to the park and in prominent places in the hall. The discussion of the various matters before the congress will commence to-day, and will last three days.

DESPERATE GLOVE FIGHT IN AMERICA.

An Alarming Accident.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, December 27.—The prize fight arranged some time ago between Jack McAuliffe, champion light weight of America, and Jake Hyams, who claims a like title in England, was brought off at Brooklyn last night. The fight was under Queen'sberry rules, and it was agreed that the winner should take the gate money. McAuliffe's weight was 135lbs., while Hyams turned the scale at 139lbs. Six-ounce gloves were used. McAuliffe forced the fighting from the start, and secured the first knock-down in the second round. Hyams responded gamely during the first few rounds, and landed some stings on his opponent's body, but after the fourth round he acted mostly on the defensive, and McAuliffe gained first blood in the fifth. Hyams began to weaken during the seventh round, and in the eighth McAuliffe gained a very decided advantage, securing six knock-downs. At this point the police ordered the fight to be stopped, but their officer was prevailed upon to allow it to proceed, and fighting was continued. Hyams was very "groggy" in the ninth, while he was floored three times and knocked senseless in the tenth and last round. The fight was accordingly awarded to McAuliffe, who was hardly marked. The only genuine hard fighting was during the second, third, eighth, and ninth rounds. An alarming accident, which occasioned the greatest excitement, occurred during the eighth round. The hall in which the fight was held was crowded with people. Suddenly a part of the gallery collapsed, and many of the people were thrown to the ground, several of them being injured.

THE EARL OF DUFFERIN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BEDFORD, December 28.—Lord Dufferin, late Vicere of India, arrived here from the East this morning with Lady Dufferin and family. His excellency left at nine o'clock for Naples.

Friday night's Gazette officially announces that

Lord Dufferin has been appointed British am-

bit.

It is considered extremely probable that a

settlement of the rent dispute on the Ponsonby

estate at Mitchelstown, where the "pig of cam-

paign" was adopted two years ago, will be imme-

diately arrived at.

The Commercial Travellers' Christian Associa-

tion held their sixteenth annual meeting on Fri-

day at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street.

The programme comprised a devotional service, a

conversation, and a general meeting, at which

the annual business was transacted, but at the

end of which there was an informal conference,

when some interesting anecdotes were retailed by

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COCKNEY CORNERS.
BY ARTHUR G. MORRISON.
X.—BOW-STREET.

To its conformation, "in shape of a bent bow," one Stripe said, a hundred and sixty-eight years ago. Bow-street was indebted for its name. Age has straightened it out, it would seem, and now almost the only reasonably direct road from the Strand to Oxford-street lies through it, by way of Wellington-street and along Endell-street. Three elements struggle for predominance in Bow-street—the theatrical, the vegetable, and the police—and their rallying points are the two theatres, the market, and the police court and station. Bow-street is not aristocratic—it is not even "stuck up," in spite of the testimony handed down by aforesaid Stripe that in the days of its curve, it was "well inhabited, and resorted unto by gentry for lodgings." But it has record of old inhabitants which many streets might envy. Fielding, Wycherley, Johnson, and Waller are four names to render any street immortal, to say nothing of Dr. Radcliffe, the famous physician; Edmund Curll, the not over-conscientious bookseller; Wilkes, Moun, and Barry, the actors; and Grinling Gibbons, whose house, on the right-hand side going from the Strand, was disrespectful enough to fall about his ears.

The theatrical element manages to hold its ground pretty fairly in the neighbourhood. The theatres throw out skirmishers in the shape of costumers, whose shops, particularly toward the pantomime season, present very brilliant effects of tinsel and colour. Blinding tin helmets set with priceless glass gems; high-heeled boned or silvered boots with a prodigality of buttons; many cards of gold lace and an infinity of spangles are here; and in some cases an array of masks like a fit of *délirium tremens*. And where a more anciently-noted theatrical stronghold than the Albion in Russell-street, opposite the corner of Drury Lane Theatre?

If Alphonse Daudet had lived in London he need never have experienced that pathetic trouble over the dress-coat. Here, if struggling genius be bidden to the feasts of the affluent—which doesn't often happen—and feel the want of conventional rear, struggling genius may go to Bow-street if have the temerity to venture so close to the police station and return equipped upon the hire system.

But the police-court. We have a strong inclination to toward Broad-court as soon as possible, and make our way into the building which makes Bow-street famous all over the world. A rare history the old court had, if somebody would but write it. Henry Fielding (who is said to have written "Tom Jones" there) and his half-brother, Sir John, first made the name of the Bow-street Police Office and its "Robin Red-breast," a terror to the footpads and Mobs of the district; and since their time, the old office (the site of which is now a blank) has had over a hundred years of hard work and strange experience. Some of the most notorious criminal trials of the century went through their preliminary stages at old Bow-street—and a very over-crammed, unpleasant little place it was.

A very fine stone building is the present office, opposite the Covent Garden Theatre, combining in itself a large police station and the court. An impatient person, who doesn't know his Bow-street, rushing along to get into the court, is apt to plunge first into the police station, and make his way up some forbidden passage before he is stopped and directed "next door." Even then, taking the direction too literally, he very likely goes through the next gate, and runs vainly all round the police yard before finally hitting on the door round the corner of Broad-court.

The court, inside, is large and high. We notice Sir James Ingham is sitting to-day. Sir James, who is chief magistrate here, is as erect of figure and as clear and quick of perception as if he were forty, although he is more than twice that age. A number of ordinary night charges are coming before him now, as we step across to the press-box and find a seat by Mr. Cleverley and Mr. Hollingshead, who personify journalism at Bow-street. For the twenty years before he finally quitted journalism, Mr. George Grossmith reported here, or rather over the way, in the old court, and many amusing anecdotes of the period when he was "known to the police" are to be found in his book, "A Society Clown."

Over at the back of the court sit the public. The public of to-day are represented by a decidedly job lot. Two or three very uneven rows of very uneven heads surmount a similar number of equally uneven rows of most extraordinarily diverse bodies. Each of the ladies' bouquets presents the appearance of having been heavily sat upon in a totally different direction to all the others, and the respect which has dictated the removal of the gentlemen's hats seems to have penetrated to the very roots of their hair, with an effect of great agitation and jungle-like confusion. There are also noticeable frequent indications of cordial recognition of friends from time to time, occupying the undesirable situation between the iron rails which form the dock.

Most of the night charges are cases of "drunk and disorderly," and one is the type of many. Enters a gentleman whom we unwittingly washed face and smooth hair—all the prisoners have a "wash and brush up" before their introduction to Sir James, gives him the appearance of having somehow got hold of somebody else's head.

"Timothy Miggs, your worship," says the gaoler. Timothy Miggs settles most of his weight upon one leg, and tries to look as indignantly respectable as possible.

A policeman steps into the witness-box—which, by the way, an Irishman might describe as a box without any sides, barring the top and back—and after taking the oath with a dexterity born of practice, relates how on the previous night, hearing a sound as of many murders in Long Acre, he proceeded—Tom, Dick, or Harry might go, walk, or run, but a policeman always "proceeds"—in the direction whence the noise came, and discovered the defendant in a state of incoherent intoxication, hanging to the knocker of a house where he didn't live, and favouring everyone within hearing (about half a mile round, witness should think), with a series of direful shrieks, occasionally alternated with a defiance to everything in general to "Come on!" Requested him to go away, whereupon defendant immediately fell toward witness with great ferocity, and would probably have committed a savage assault upon him had he possessed any distinct idea of where witness was standing at the time. Continued shrieking, so was taken into custody.

"Well," asks the magistrate, "has defendant anything to say to that?"

Yes, defendant has a good deal to say to that. In the first place, has never been drunk in his life. Secondly, hadn't had anything to drink but a scindit powder all day. Further, has been afflicted with sunstroke in such manner that a very little drink upsets him, which he hopes as how his worship will take into consideration, particularly as he intends signing the pledge immediately upon regaining his liberty. Also mentions, generally, and as a matter of detail, the fact that the entire police establishment of the metropolis have entered into a plot to damage his reputation; winding up with a fervent desire that his worship will let him off this once and it shan't never occur again.

After which masterly defence, and particularly after the statement of the gaoler, that defendant has been at the court six times before (which obviously places the existence of the police conspiracy beyond a doubt) it is disappointing to find that Mr. Timothy Miggs will have to pay five shillings if he wishes to breathe the outer air of Bow-street before next Tuesday.

Even policemen are not all alike. Watch them giving their evidence. One will stand at "attention," and rest of his communication in a "Police Intelligence" phrase, like a boy saying his *pone asinorum* by rote, until, the court being acoustically defective, we feel convinced that the defendant A.B., having been drawn from one given point to another, and not being found to coincide with the policeman C—was

finally produced to the police station, and found to be equal to D.E.U.N.K. Quod erat demonstrandum. Another policeman, probably a new hand, will recite the atrocities of the delinquent with great oratorical feeling and an air of personal indignation quite refreshing. Still another, presumably an old and trusted officer, will lean forward and impart his information with the deferentially familiar manner of a confidential adviser. All the policemen have an unfamiliar look without their helmets to a person unaccustomed to making sudden visits to the kitchen, and there is a decided suggestion of the butcher's young man about their very shiny and carefully-brushed hair. As the general uniformity in the appearance of policemen leads us to more particularly remark any little personal diversity they exhibit, so the motley guise of the prisoners brings to our notice their common or general characteristics. It is surprising and melancholy to hear of the devastations wrought among them by sunstroke; the neighbourhood of Bow-street would appear to be one of the sunniest on earth. It would astonish a teetotaller to know what an immense proportion of the results he deplores are caused, not as he uncharitably supposes, by Beer, but by the Sun. This depraved luminary is responsible for the troubles of about 50 per cent. of the gentlemen whom the Bow-street charge-sheet libels as intoxicated.

Most of the old offenders exhibit a bewildered confusion on approaching the dock intended to create the impression that they are strangers of extreme innocence making a first appearance. They want to stand in the wrong place and look the wrong way. And the better they are known at the court the more fervent they are in their assurances that "it shall never occur again."

This old lady is a type. Immediately upon entering the court she stops, with many affable smiles, and commences a succession of deep curtsies to everybody—in general, and assurances that "it shall never occur again, yet wush—" which lasts, with few intervals, during the entire case. The gaoler makes several attempts to get her into the dock before succeeding, each effort being received with many curtsies by the amiable defendant, who stands behind the dock, and in front of it, and everywhere but in it, until forcibly projected between the rails, when she settles herself with a few more curtseys, and further assures his worship that it shall never occur again.

"Jemima Cripps, your worship," thus the gaoler. Several more curtseys and two assurances.

Policeman says he found defendant rolling about on the pavement in Drury-lane, weeping bitterly and singing comic songs by turns. Responded to his suggestion that she should go home with unquotable remarks. Didn't know where she lived and didn't care. Refused to be assisted to her feet, and on being lifted into a perpendicular position, bit and gnawed at witness's shoulder till her false teeth fell out. Worse than ever, so was taken into custody.

"What would Jemima Cripps like to say to this? It shall never occur again, your wush—I assure you, never again. You see, yesterday, your wush—my married daughter, your wush—which she's been married seven year come the next blessed Saturday fortnight as never was—and it shan't occur again, your wush—and which I will say as her husband's a very respectable young man, your wush, as is in the tripe-dressing—well, yesterday—interestin' event, your wush—which she presented him with the blessedest baby as never was—I assure your wush it shan't occur again—and being subject to giddiness, your wush, as was ever since I was a blessed infant myself—which it shan't occur again, your wush—which not to mention it's being Christmas time, and trusting as how the circumstances will be the extenuation thereof, and I most solemnly assure your wush it shall never occur again."

The magistrate's inquiry of the gaoler producing the information that, whatever may happen in future it certainly has occurred several times before, Jemima Cripps is allowed the opportunity of purchasing her liberty for the ensuing fortnight at the price of twenty shillings. Then other cases come on, much more unpleasant to contemplate. Hulking rascals for assaulting their wives; juvenile reprobates who grin unconcerned while their mothers weepingly relinquish the fight at last, and confess their inability to influence them; pickpockets and lazy beggars, who won't work, who occupy casual wards and keep their hands in their pockets, and who come here for refusing to do what is given them, and go off to prison perfectly contented, so long as there is nothing to do there, come into the dock one after another, until the court adjourns for luncheon, and we get upon the pavement and among the theatrical surroundings of Bow-street once more.

"SHE" OF PICCADILLY.

No one knows what is her real age. Ask the oldest habitee of Piccadilly, and he will answer that so long as he can remember she has borne the same appearance. And a very taking appearance it is—from a little distance. Of about the average feminine height, and perhaps a trifle less, the "She" of Piccadilly has a graceful, beautifully rounded figure, small feet and hands, refined features, great lustrous eyes, and a sort of infantine charm which young men find very taking. She is always handsomely dressed—perhaps there may just be a little touch of "boldness" in her costume—but one always excuses that in beauties of the baby kind. Her little rosebud mouth, her plump cheeks, her milk-and-roses complexion, her shell-like ears, even her mincing walk, appeal to the chivalrous instincts of man. And never more so than when, in passing some well-dressed "he," the dainty little creature shoots a quick side glance at him out of those wonderful eyes of hers. Not a glance of invitation—oh! dear, no; nothing of that sort. It is a kind of visual interrogatory, just as if she were searching for some old friend in the madding crowd. Young greenhorns in town, unacquainted with her traditional peculiarities, have sometimes felt emboldened by this semi-recognition to lift their hats and accost the fair pilgrim. On such occasions she has shown her good breeding by at once apologising for the mistake which led to the mistake, and then, with a freezing bow, has passed on. Beyond these chance mishaps, neither living man nor woman can boast of having exchanged words with the mysterious "She." Nor is it even known where she lives. Rumours fixes her residence, it is true, somewhere in the precincts of Belgravian; but, so far as I have been able to discover, this is purely conjecture, due to the fact that when she first appears in Piccadilly she is always coming from Hyde Park Corner.

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putting it on with her other adornments previous to setting forth on her monotonous round. I protest that this forced appearance of gaiety affects me more than even the sight of feminine tears generally does. One knows when a woman cries that she will soon feel all the better for it; indeed, among men I know some appear to derive no little enjoyment from snivelling. But a shoddy smile, woven for the occasion, tells of a headache which all the tears in the world will not wash out. And it is a smile of this sort that "She" brings forth into the gaudy sunlight. For it is known that the inscrutable one only promenades in fine weather. During the winter she apparently hibernates; no one has ever seen her, at all events, from about the middle of October to the end of April.

Perhaps it may be partly due to this saving of wear and tear for six months every year that she retains her juvenile appearance. There are, however, those who say that she is much more indebted for it to Racheleque arts. They affirm that the perpetual smile is caused by the inflexibility of enamel, that the arched eyebrows and smooth glossy hair are bought at a price, that the vermilion lips and dainty complexion might be produced on a skull by the means she employs, and that the pearly teeth, the rounded figure, and all the rest of her charming attractions represent the triumph of human ingenuity over decayed nature. In a word, they would have it believed that this lovely creature, if divested of artificial embellishments, would appear a shrivelled and mummified horror, as the original "She" did after she had passed through the fire. Scandal, vulgar scandal, of course; envy always tells these stories of the incomparable.

What is the history of "The Venus of Piccadilly," as she is sometimes called, in allusion to her beauty and immortality? Since she first came under my observation, any number of biographies, each warranted true, have reached my ears. But the majority were so thoroughly stamped with the hall-mark of unveracity as to be entirely unworthy of belief—except, perhaps, by the political gothmouches of Pall Mall, who possess an absolute ostrich faculty for digesting and assimilating the wildest fabrications. The more credible yarns, although differing considerably in minor details, agree to a large extent in essentials, and by carefully collating them it is possible to arrive at something like an authentic version of the dear dainty lady's ups and downs.

Of good, almost aristocratic descent, but embarrassed by poverty, she was married at an early age—indeed, when quite a girl—to a young fellow of equal social position, but much more liberally endowed with cash. It was what the foolish world calls "a love match"—in plain English, what ought to have remained a passing flirtation, was carried across the matrimonial fence. Little need to tell the consequences; astiety followed by indifference, indifference by dislike, dislike by virtual separation, although they still dwelt under the same roof. Such strained relations as these could not last, and they did not. The lines which were to have run parallel for ever and a day diverged more and more, until club idlers amused themselves by laying wagers as whether husband's wife would be the first to "bolt off the course." They were more discreet than that. After discovering that nothing but discomfort and ill-repute result from incessant matrimonial quarrels—terminating occasionally in blows and tears—the ill-assorted couple tacitly agreed to walk their respective ways through life without further jostling. For this purpose the husband made a substantial allowance to the wife, and when they parted there was a kinder feeling in their hearts than for many a day. But it was understood that the conventionalities of society should be respected by both; it would never do to create scandal.

The fiction was accordingly maintained that the house occupied by "She" represented the family "home." It is true the head of the family never appeared there, but that was explained by his ineradicable love of "knocking about." And he did knock about considerably from pillar to post all round the circle of so-called "pleasures." It is needless, and might not be very edifying, to follow his gyrations; they can easily be imagined. Let us confine our attention to the lovely and virtuous heroine whose modest memoirs I am attempting to write. For a time she behaved with reasonable demureness—she was, as far as the world saw, a young woman of good breeding and position—one marvellously handsome—establishing a sort of boarding-house in the heart of the City for bachelor clerks. It is not surprising that the beauty finds herself overwhelmed with attentions; the wonder would be if she were not. In spite, however, of these little crudities, there is plenty of entertainment in the volume.

BUT: OR, THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF A HONEY BEE. By Maurice Noel. One vol. Second edition. Published by J. W. Arrowsmith, Bristol.

A well-written story, wholesome and interesting, with some evidence here and there of originality. "On the Wrong Tack" is a novel bound to please the majority of its readers. The heroine is a very pleasant creation; that is, if the author considers the frank, affectionate, outspoken Christie his heroine. The other lady who might lay claim to that character is more of a decorative artist. There is, too, something bizarre in the notion of two young women of good breeding and position—one among them being subject to "wings" and "tail" respectively.

THE LADIES' TREASURY: ON THE WRONG TACK. By A. E. Wilton. One vol. 2s. Published by J. W. Arrowsmith, Bristol.

—A MANUSCRIPT FOUND IN A MADHOUSE. By Lord Lytton (this thrilling story is not included in any collected edition of Lord Lytton's Works.) And "A FAIR CLIENT." By Mrs. S. C. Hall.

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THE MADMAN'S WIFE.

BY ELIE BERTHET.

(Translated from the French.)

CHAPTER XIX.

THE MADHOUSE.

Some months had elapsed, and it seemed as if the favourable hopes entertained concerning Raymond Lalande were about to be realised. A complete and early cure was spoken of, and it was fully expected that the brilliant artist would soon be able to return to his studio.

Although still kept at the asylum at Paissy, he appeared to be as calm and reasonable as he had ever been in his life. Legoff and Paul Bordier, the sight of whom at one time excited him beyond measure, now often passed an hour at a time with him without being subject to the slightest insult or bitter word. They chatted with him about his pictures and future plans, and he appeared convinced that a purely physical malady had necessitated his admission to a private hospital.

It is true that he was not allowed to see his wife, whose presence might have excited him too much, and possibly delayed his cure; but, even had this interview been permitted, Clemence could not have taken advantage of it. During the last few months previous to the birth of her child, no doubt in consequence of the violent scenes she had gone through, she hardly ever left the sofa, and her doctor forbade her to go out either in a carriage or on foot. She frequently wrote affectionate letters to her husband about herself and the child, still unborn—subjects one would have imagined most likely to affect him—and although he replied briefly and in a somewhat confused manner, his letters, on the whole, were such as one would have expected him to write, and they filled her with delight.

As these happy results continued to develop themselves the precautions exercised over Raymond were gradually relaxed. The straight-jacket and padded room were no longer required. One of the warders, whose duty was to watch over him day and night, was taken off, and he was allowed to walk about the grounds of the asylum in company with the other patients who were considered harmless. It is true that the grounds were surrounded on all sides by high walls, which rendered flight impossible, and that he was still followed at a distance by a warden, who at the slightest outbreak would have taken charge of him, but the painter never for a moment gave way to any of those eccentricities which are not uncommon with lunatics even during the period of convalescence. He passed most of his time sketching or caricaturing the doctors and his companions.

The keeper who now had charge of him, and who kept as close to him as his shadow, was not one of the two who in the first instance had been put in charge of him. He had newly entered on his duties, and his appearance was not prepossessing. Although not more than forty years of age his face was as rough and wrinkled as that of some old countryman. Doubtless before being allowed to enter on his very important duties due precaution had been taken, and his recommendations found to be satisfactory; but the authorities at asylums are not over particular with regard to the men who offer to undertake the disagreeable post of keeper. What is chiefly expected from them is a good deal of gentleness and patience, combined with a considerable amount of physical force. Now, Marsaud—for such was this man's name—had a good pair of fists, and had the reputation of being able to receive a nasty blow without wishing to return it. This was sufficient, and he was consequently engaged and employed in looking after Lalande.

Raymond pretended to treat him as an ordinary servant. He acquiesced with very little objection to everything he was asked to do, and Marsaud, on his side, took care not to contradict him. It seemed as if the keeper, in showing so much moderation, had some afterthought which sooner or later would make itself seen.

The question whether Lalande should be allowed to return to his family was again under consideration when Paul Bordier and Legoff called one day at the asylum. They were commissioned to announce to the painter an important piece of news, but as this was likely to impress him in a dangerous manner, they thought it best to be accompanied by one of the doctors of the house.

Dr. B.—was one of the most experienced men in his profession with regard to all mental maladies. Although still young, he had studied deeply, and his experience was such that he could often foresee dangerous results from very slight symptoms. His powerful eye seemed to penetrate to the very soul of the lunatic he was examining.

Although the doctor always spoke to Raymond in a gentle manner, the latter did not like him, and on seeing him approach he frowned. He, however, received his visitors politely, and asked them to be seated, whilst Marsaud remained discreetly near the door.

Dr. B.—began the conversation. "Monsieur Lalande," he said, in a friendly tone, but fixing on him his piercing eye, "these gentlemen have a piece of news to announce to you. I hope you will receive it with coolness and like a philosopher."

Raymond burst out laughing. "By heavens, doctor," he replied, "I guess the event you allude to. My wife has made me a father; is it not so? Well, don't keep me in suspense. Is it a boy or a girl?"

The tone in which he said this was quite natural, although there was something in the laugh which the doctor did not like. As B.—did not at once reply, Paul exclaimed:

"A boy, my dear Lalande, and a fine fellow too, and to use a commonplace expression, 'mother and child are doing well.'"

"Hurrah!" replied Lalande. "I always wanted a boy. I shall love the mother and child with an equal tenderness. You see, doctor," he added in an ironical manner, "that I receive the news like a philosopher," and he proceeded to inquire after his wife's health and what was taking place at home. His brother-in-law and Legoff gave him full details.

"Look here!" continued Raymond, "when will the baptism of my son take place, and whom shall we have as godparents?"

"I will be the godfather, if you will allow me," replied Paul, "it is my right as head of the family. As for the godmother, I do not think we can do otherwise than ask Mademoiselle Katrine, although Clemence has not yet decided on this point."

"Katrine!" asked Lalande, with unfeigned astonishment, "who is she?"

"We have often spoken to you about her. An excellent creature, who loves Clemence like a sister, and who latterly has nursed her with singular devotedness. Collect your thoughts. I have repeatedly spoken to you of this kind person who desires to repair the wrongs our family has suffered at the hands of others. As for myself, I delight in her, quite disinterestedly, you know, seeing that Katrine, otherwise Mademoiselle Catherine de Varigny, is over forty, whatever Legoff may say," and Paul smiled ironically at his friend.

"De Varigny!" exclaimed Raymond, who, in spite of the control he exercised over himself, could not help starting.

In order to understand these words of young Bordier, it must be remembered that neither he nor Legoff knew anything about Raymond's absurd suspicions with regard to George de Varigny. From a feeling of delicacy easy to understand, Clemence had never alluded to them, as she attributed them solely to her husband's madness, and felt quite convinced that with the return of reason they would entirely disappear.

Lalande again burst out laughing.

"Truly the fete will be a charming one," he continued, "and I should like to be one of the

party. You will, I am sure, doctor, give me my ticket-of-leave, so that I may give myself up freely to the family joys. The meningitis—for such, I believe, is the name of the malady from which I have been suffering—has quite disappeared, and I am anxious to find myself once more in my studio, where so much work awaits me."

It would have been impossible for him to express himself in a simpler or more rational manner, and Paul and Legoff turned towards the doctor, convinced that he could not do otherwise than accede to his request.

"I hope that we shall very shortly be able to satisfy you, M. Lalande. You are much better, but we must guard against any relapse. The family party cannot take place for some days. Between this and then your health will no doubt be still more restored, and then there will be no possible reason why you should not return home."

Notwithstanding Raymond's control over himself he did not succeed in concealing his great disappointment. He had not time to express it, however, for the doctor, addressing Legoff and Bordier, said:

"Gentlemen, so long a conversation cannot be otherwise than hurtful to our dear invalid, and it is desirable that he should take his usual walk in the grounds."

He rose at the same time, and the two visitors having taken an affectionate farewell, retired with the doctor, leaving Raymond in a dazed condition.

Whilst they were passing through the long corridors of the asylum, the two friends, who had placed themselves one at each side of the doctor, questioned him as to the real condition of the patient.

"Gentlemen," replied the doctor coldly, in a voice which contrasted strangely with his usual soft and insinuating manner, "although M. Lalande's condition is improved, he is far from being cured. His malady has assumed a fresh phase, which is none the less to be feared. I perceive from certain signs that for the present there would be the greatest danger in allowing him his liberty and permitting him to re-enter the world."

"Is it possible!" said Paul Bordier. "From the way you spoke to him I inferred just the contrary."

"On principle we never appear to oppose our patients, although we never give way to their whims, which are often dangerous. I must be careful not to make an exception in M. Lalande's case, and I cannot at present allow him to leave the asylum, for as I have already said, he is not yet cured."

"Sir," interposed Legoff, "very important results have certainly been achieved, and Lalande appears to me quite sane. Perhaps if he went back to his old style of life the last traces of his malady would disappear. At the present moment his madness—if it can be called by such a name—is harmless, like that of his sister Honore, whom I sometimes meet, and who is as docile as a child."

"Is like his sister's condition," replied the doctor, "is like his hereditary, and quite incurable. This apparent tranquillity after a former outbreak of delirium proves nothing. M. Lalande is what we call a 'dissimilier,' or as the keepers put it, he 'runs cunning.' Unless I am much mistaken, he is mad on one point; he is a monomaniac, with a fixed idea, as you would term it, and his case is a most serious one. Persons in this category may be apparently sensible for a long time and until the very moment of a catastrophe. They have sufficient control over themselves not to betray their thoughts or plans, and they pursue a hidden end with most extraordinary energy and persistence. This kind of monomania often leads to the most awful crimes, carried out with the utmost prudence and relentlessness."

"What, sir!" interrupted George; "do you believe that my brother-in-law is capable of a crime of this character?"

"I don't say that. It is impossible to be quite sure in such a case. But the antecedents of M. Lalande are not very reassuring. Have you forgotten the danger his wife ran in the Forest of Saint Germain? If he were not carefully watched he might repeat the same act, or even worse."

During this conversation they had arrived at the outer court, close to the door. As they were leaving, Paul asked the doctor once more:

"Then, sir, Raymond will not regain his liberty for some time?"

"I do not know," came the reply; "but with my consent he will not leave the asylum until certain symptoms have disappeared."

Having said this he bowed, and the two friends retired, thoroughly disappointed at the result of their visit.

"It seems to me," said Paul, with a show of temper, "that the authorities don't want to lose the large sum which is being paid for Lalande's keep; he has never appeared to me so well, and still they won't let him go."

"For myself," replied Legoff, "I think the doctor is quite right, and in the interest both of mother and child it is useful to be very cautious."

"Ah, you M. Legoff, are always so obstinate in your views. What are we to say to my sister? She is so full of hope, and this disappointment may have a fatal effect in her present condition."

"There is no necessity to tell her at once," he replied.

Whilst Paul and Legoff were returning to the Rue d'Assas, Raymond, accompanied by his keeper, had gone into the grounds to take his daily walk. He was very thoughtful and silent, and there was a savage look on his face. Marsaud, who had acquired a certain knowledge of lunatics and their ways, watched him from afar off in order to be prepared for any emergency.

There existed, as already mentioned, a certain intimacy between Raymond and his keeper servant. The painter, whilst having a thorough contempt for the other patients, did not disdain to chat with Marsaud and asked him for any information he wanted.

The weather was cold and rainy on the day in question, and most of the inmates of the asylum had remained in their rooms instead of going into the grounds. Raymond had turned into a solitary side walk, which was a favourite of his, and not feeling that he was no longer watched and not heeding Marsaud's presence, began to show his agitation by angry gestures and incoherent words.

The keeper, who was following him, approached, and softening his usual harsh tones said, in a wily manner:

"My opinion is, my good sir, that you are being humbugged by that hypocrite of a doctor who must sign your release in order that you may see your wife and child. He has his own reasons for acting towards you as he has done towards others, and everybody hates him here."

Raymond cast a furious glance at him, but as the words of the keeper were in accordance with his own sentiments, he replied:

"Yes, yes; you are right, Marsaud; this Dr. B.—is a scoundrel, and I should like to kick him to strangle him to—"

"Stop, stop, my dear sir," interrupted Marsaud, taking a rapid glance around him. "Don't give way in this manner, for if you were seen it would spoil your prospects. Have patience. Dr. B.—is not sole master here, and cannot keep you a prisoner like the—like those who have been condemned at the assizes. By Jove! if you were to leave the house I should not be long after you. One is far too much looked after here, life is as hard as if one were in prison. I have had enough of it, and the sooner I am out of it the better."

Towards the end of the dinner a nurse entered with the infant, who was dressed in a white robe, trimmed with rich lace. It was presented to each guest in turn, who placed a kiss on its delicate forehead. It was a pretty child, rosy, and in the best of health, and every one commented on its likeness to its father.

Clemence was much touched by the affectionate congratulations of her friends.

"Yes, he is very like his father," she said, her eyes filling with tears, "and I pray God that he may resemble him in his brilliant qualities. The poor little thing enters the world under very bad auspices. Oh, my dear friends, let me implore you to stand by him in after life should he express myself."

"Well, if you succeed in liberating me from this infernal hole, I will reward you handsomely."

"Truly the fete will be a charming one," he continued, "and I should like to be one of the

party. You will, I am sure, doctor, give me my ticket-of-leave, so that I may give myself up freely to the family joys. The meningitis—for such, I believe, is the name of the malady from which I have been suffering—has quite disappeared, and I am anxious to find myself once more in my studio, where so much work awaits me."

"That won't do! Once free, you would no longer think of me. No! that won't do, my good sir. Supposing I was willing to assist you, and could do so, I should not like to compromise myself without money down, paid in advance."

"How am I to get ready money, Marsaud? You know we are not allowed to possess the smallest coin."

"You have relations and rich friends. Why don't you apply to them. Look here, M. Lalande, I won't beat about the bush. I want to oblige you, for you are a kind gentleman, and it seems to me they want to let you rot here. Obtain, some way or another, the sum of one thousand francs, which would suffice for me to escape from Paris, and try my fortunes elsewhere, and I will pledge my word that as soon as you have handed me that sum you shall not be twenty-four hours with these lunatics."

"A thousand francs! How am I to get them?"

"That's your lookout. Stay, did you not know that you knew some one of the name of de Varigny?"

"De Varigny!" repeated Lalande, his eyes glittering with rage. "Yes, I know some one of that name."

"Is he not the son of the old usurer—the heir to an old blackguard who came to a bad end? Well, he can discharge, for they say he is worth ever so many millions."

Raymond remained silent, but the frown on his face showed that he was thinking.

"Yes," he said at length, with a hideous smile, "it would be a regular master stroke! Make him pay!" and one of his usual outbursts of laughter closed the thought.

After a time he continued:

"Perhaps after all this de Varigny would not give the money, and then, again, I don't know where he lives."

"It won't require much cleverness to discover where a millionaire lives, and if I am not mistaken it won't be necessary to leave this house to find out."

"What do you mean?"

"Why only a few days back I saw your swell enter the private study of the director of the asylum."

"Are you sure, Marsaud, was it really George de Varigny?"

"I know his face well enough, and perhaps he knows mine, which is not a very pleasant prospect, for he is on intimate terms with those who are not very friendly disposed toward me."

"Sir," interposed Legoff, "very important results have certainly been achieved, and Lalande appears to me quite sane. Perhaps if he went back to his old style of life the last traces of his malady would disappear. At the present moment his madness—if it can be called by such a name—is harmless, like that of his sister Honore, whom I sometimes meet, and who is as docile as a child."

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OUR OMNIBUS.

THE M.P.

Right glad were we weary senators when the interminable and desperately wearisome session of 1888 at last flickered out. The public have no idea of what it is to sit hour after hour while the Parnellite crew continue to deliberately waste time. If they are paid for doing that, as rumour says they are, I must confess they thoroughly earn their wages. But so great is the sense of relief at being rid of their companionship, that I am almost ready to forget and forgive their discreditable tactics. It is extraordinary that these men, who are not deficient in shrewdness, think that they will secure Home Rule by applying the scorpion of obstruction to the House of Commons. Of all mad notions, that is the maddest.

Another idea rather savouring of mild lunacy has got hold, it appears, on certain Scotch Unionists. They have begged Lord Randolph Churchill to give up his perfectly safe seat for South Paddington on the chance of being returned for their constituency. That would, indeed, be swapping the substance for the shadow. Lord Randolph feels perfectly comfortable where he is, and if these worthy Scots can get on without a knight errant, they must find some one else to play the part.

The recent bye-elections have greatly disconcerted the Separatists, who made sure that these contests would afford them occasion for cock-swinging during the Parliamentary recess. Instead of fulfilling that hope, the quadruple contest has demonstrated that the Liberal Unionists have abandoned the idea of reconciliation with the Gladstonites, and now favour a fighting policy. They have still a good deal of work to accomplish before their electoral strength will be fully organised. But they are making steady progress in the required direction, a fact which does not give the Separatists much comfort.

It was not altogether "straight" conduct on the part of Mr. Gladstone to fire off a speech full of the grossest misstatements on the eve of his departure for Italy, and then to give directions that all letters addressed to Hawarden should be kept there until his return. This almost looks as if he expected to be called to account for his tardiness, and was anxious to save himself the trouble of trying to explain them away. It is rumoured that when he heard the result of the Colchester and Stockton elections, he exclaimed, "The English people are very stupid." Not so stupid, at all events, as to be taken in by a political "confidence trick."

The London County Council promises to be a curious mixture of personalities. Among the candidates already in the field some are men of position, others of no position; some have made names for themselves, others belong to the illustrious unknown; some are moved by genuine desire to work for their fellow-citizens, others lie open to the suspicion of intending to work for themselves. It is certainly a "leap in the dark" to hand over such enormous powers for good or evil to bodies constituted of such heterogeneous materials. Fortunately, we English have a gift for making even the roughest machinery work smoothly, and I do not doubt that the County Councils will do good work after a time.

Lord Rosebery used to hold himself somewhat aloof from the unscrupulous manœuvres of the other Separatist leaders. Unhappily, this is no longer the case. His desire to be Mr. Gladstone's successor has proved too strong for his squeamishness. In his latest speech—a curiously dull one, by the way—the Scotch peer harked back to the worn out "black man" cry, and, disregarding Lord Salisbury's explanation, endeavoured to make out that the Premier had snared at all coloured people. Posh! Lord Salisbury merely stated that a black man does not stand such a good chance as a white man to represent an English constituency in the House of Commons. That is a fact, and there is nothing insulting in mentioning it. In some foreign countries the devil is always represented with a white complexion, that being the unfashionable colour.

A story goes that after Dr. Tanner's disgraceful exhibition in the House he received by post a little packet addressed by a feminine hand. Thinking that it was some pretty Christmas present from a "mashed" beauty, he hurriedly cut the strings and found a little pink note. This merely said, "Please use the enclosed frequently. The contents were a box of dentifrice and a tongue scraper! Tanner swore.

That seems incredible. The Chancellor of the Exchequer actually acknowledges the receipt of £5 as conscience money from "a provincial solicitor." Absurd! As if any lawyer ever had a conscience. It must be one of Mr. Goschen's little jokes; there is a deal of sly humour about him.

There are some stern economists who grudge the national outlay on the consular service, affecting to believe that it contains too many members. Perhaps they may come to a different view when they see that Prince Bismarck is steadily strengthening the German consular service. During the last sixteen years the number of its officers has been augmented by between thirty and forty per cent., and this process is still going on. British consuls and their assistants are the very eyes and feelers of British commerce; without them it would soon have the bottom knocked out of it by foreign competition.

The Sultan is delighted, it appears, by Lord Salisbury's recognition of his sacerdotal rights at Suakin. It would not be judicious for the Turk to make too much of that acknowledgement. Rights and duties run together, and if, therefore, Turkey is sultan of the Egyptian dotor in the Red Sea, she is bound to defend it against the Soudanese. Will the Sultan do that and place a garrison at Suakin? Not a bit of it.

WILLIAM OF CLOUDESLEE.

Not much racing news worth recording has been chronicled this week. At the clubs, members have paid far more attention to billiards than to betting, and until Wednesday the list of fixtures was happily left blank. Under the circumstances it was natural that the Derby, which has been hitherto almost neglected, was brought up for notice. Donovan, of course, is favourite, and to 1 a current quotation in the extremely limited market. Laureate will no doubt be well backed when more books are opened. As usual when wagering long before a race is under notice, I advise readers not to bother about it. As regards Laureate, I wish to make this tip specially strong, because no matter how good he may be, his engagements either than the Derby are likely to interfere with a proper training for the Epsom event.

J. R. C. Naylor's recent sale of horses in racing is not to be taken as a final dispersal of his racing stud; it seems, for the horses then knocked down to Mr. J. L. Davis turn out to have been bought in. They will be trained by W. Gilbert at Newmarket, and under Mr. Garry Moore's care at Littleton. The Hooton millionaire has not had much luck in racing of late, let us hope that change of quarters may mean change of fortune.

A big company assembled at Kempton on bank holiday, and a capital afternoon's sport rewarded their attendance. As a rule, the racing was exciting, and especially so in the last event of the day, the Twickenham Maiden Hurdle race. After several stops and changes in running Diavolo seemed to be winning with a good deal to spare, when young Sam Woodlands on Purple Emperor came with a rush. Diavolo was eased near the post, and before the horse, who was very tired, could be fairly set going again, Purple Emperor had caught him and won.

We start with the Hunter's Flat Race in

which good odds were laid on Unripe, who in the fisherman fishing on their own account, but I, for one, sincerely pity these poor men, improvident as they are, and do not blame them for trying to catch a few fish to sell as bait or to provide a meal for starving little ones at home. I was recently told by one of the men that "the youngsters would have to sew their mouths up," and the words, even though used in a grim jest, grate unpleasantly upon the ear at this season of the year, and do not lend a pleasant flavour to one's own roast turkey and plum pudding.

Further difficulties have arisen with regard to the much-needed lock and weir which it is proposed shall be constructed below Richmond bridge, and the carrying out of the idea seems to be as far off as ever. The Board of Trade impose such arbitrary conditions upon those who have the matter in hand, which must be fulfilled before they allow an official inquiry to take place, that nothing further will be done—at all events, at present.

There are reasonable grounds for hoping that the general state of angling affairs will be in better condition at the end of 1889 than at present. A bill to protect the rights of anglers against the encroachments of riparian owners is awaiting the attention of the legislators of the land, and we may soon hear something more about it. The agitation in favour of abolishing or altering the now useless and vexatious Mundella Act will assuredly be attended with good result. The Anglers' Association continues to do beneficial work, and is intending, if possible, to again net the reservoirs of the East London Waterworks for the benefit of the Lea. A feeling is gaining ground among anglers that the money which is now used in providing stakes for competitions would be better spent in stocking waters and fish preservation. These are all signs of the times which lead me to hope that continued failure and disappointment will not always be the experience of the now numerous lovers of the gentle art.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

The fox is usually spoken of as a model of cunning. He possesses that quality, no doubt, and a still more notable characteristic is his stamina, or, as athletes would call it, his "staying power." There are not many of our fleetest runners who could go at top speed for twenty-five miles on end, as a gallant fox did in Cardiganshire the other day. He covered that distance in something less than three and a-half hours, hotly pursued by a pack of hounds. The dogs must have occasionally missed the scent and so allowed poor Reynard a brief breathing time, or the time of the run would have been shorter. Even with these checks, the pace was over seven miles an hour throughout. I am glad to say that the fugitive escaped after all, thanks to a friendly "earth" presenting itself just when he must have been doubting whether hunting was unmixed fun for the hunted.

I see that a British sailor has been devoured by ground sharks at Sierra Leone. The unfortunate man was on a punt engaged with others in cleaning the side of his ship. His legs were dangling over the side, when he suddenly disappeared and never rose again to the surface. A short time afterwards a native caught the murderous fish on his hook, and in its death struggle it threw up the arm of the dead sailor.

By the way, what a draught there was from the stage when the beginning of the panorama scene was first displayed. It came over the stalls like a cold sirocco (if one can imagine such a thing), and caused (in my quarter) a general wrappings up of legs and throats. This sort of visitation should be avoided if possible.

Luckily our seas are tolerably free of these unpleasant visitors, but still blue sharks are frequently caught off the southern coasts. The tawny and smooth hound are common British species. Occasionally the hammer-headed shark, the strongest fish of the order, wanders up from the more southerly portions of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans to these isles. The broad, flat head of this fish has exactly the appearance of a hammer, the eyes being placed at each of the ends. The fox shark, otherwise known as thresher, occasionally honours us with his presence. He is of a good length—fifteen feet and more—and derives his first name from his long tail. The porbeagle, too, is sometimes found on our southern coasts and those of our sister island, and the Greenland shark on rare occasions has been met with off the western shores of Scotland and England.

It may interest my readers who were not acquainted with the fact to learn that the turkey, which just now holds a large place in our thoughts, is not an indigenous bird. It was introduced to Europe from North America in the sixteenth century. It received its name under an erroneous impression that it haled from the land which has a similar title. The wild birds from the same stock still are plentiful in North American forests, where they live on a mixed diet of insects, berries, fruits, small frogs, &c.

Before the first round of the Sheffield Christmas Handicap was started seven men were well backed, viz., G. Smith (of Pittsburgh), Wright, Jennings, Grant, Hanson, Edwards, and J. Smith. Most of the favourites were after the first round.

OLD IZAAK.

There is still not much ease to do but to enter upon the "endless field for argument and speculation," which is one of the chief charms of angling. All ideas of active experiment must be put aside in face of the continued unfavourable weather. It may be that we shall have two or three nights' frost before New Year's Day to put the water a little trim for those anglers to whom that day means a holiday, but the result of the Christmas fishing has been failure all round. I felt it to be unsafe to wish my readers a merry Christmas last week if they intended to fish, for I knew that the circumstances under which they would do so would be most dispiriting and hopeless, but I can, and do, wish them a happy new year, and trust that during 1889 they may feel many a tightline.

In marked contrast to the announcement recently made that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would be asked to take the chair at the next annual dinner of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, comes the news that the next committee meeting of that society will probably be the last, and that, as a matter of course, the whole staff of river-keepers have received notices of discharge.

May we hope to see, then, during the coming year a really competent society formed to protect and preserve the fish in the river between Staines and Kew. Its objects should be to protect the fish from the poachers; to re-stock it as far as possible with coarse fish, and to do this there is no reason why the resources opened out by artificial fish-culture should not be utilised, as pointed out by me in my article of the 4th ult.; to put a stop to the taking of undersized fish; and to afford facilities to fish for spawning, and to protect the spawn itself.

I venture to think, although "I say it as I oughtn't to," that many of my readers who, like myself, were debarred from fishing by the weather, must have derived considerable comfort and consolation from the huge pennyworth comprised in the Christmas number of the *People*. Reading, in my opinion, comes next to angling as an innocent, harmless amusement, and the opportunity afforded by the issue I have mentioned must have come as a boon and a blessing to men.

The Christmas number of the *Fishing Gazette* was also remarkable for its quality and quantity. The well executed engraving representing a group of pipe fishermen landing a fish about 100 years ago will do more to excite astonishment at the way in which our ancestors used to dress when angling than anything else. An angler who now went down to the banks of a river—let us say the Lea—on Sunday morning attired in a tall beaver hat, top boots, and a frock coat, would probably find himself regarded with some slight degree of wonder and amusement. The tale, too, of the two Frenchmen who, during the siege of Paris, were captured while fishing by the Prussians and were shot as spies, is well and pathetically told. Mr. E. B. Marston is to be congratulated upon the production, and I deeply regret to learn that he has lately suffered a great bereavement and sorrow, in which he will have the heartfelt sympathy of many anglers.

A complaint is being made about professional

clothes, albeit three of the four acts have their scenes laid in Mexico.

That, however, is not so bad as the cold and draughty air of the theatre, the depressing look of the covered-up seats in the auditorium, the waits between the acts, and, on occasion, the repetition of a long scene from beginning to end. That was what "floored" me the other night at the Adelphi, and, while the scene was being repeated, I fled. Soon after I came back the play stopped again at a front scene, because the scene behind it could not be "set" in time, necessitating either greater speed in "setting" or the addition of dialogue to the front scene, so as to spread it out to the requ' red length.

Herein are illustrated some of the troubles of playwrights. They set to work to cut out dialogue which seems redundant, and then at the last moment have to put it back again. Fortunately, Messrs. Pettitt and Sims are both good-natured men, and everything must have been arranged acceptably, for on the following night the piece went with wonderful smoothness. Among the spectators, by the way, were Mrs. and Miss Terrell, the wife and daughter of the popular actor.

While "The Silver Falls" was being produced at the Adelphi, "Prince Karl" was being revised at the Globe, and I mention the fact in order to record the remarkable advance made in his art by Mr. Weedon Grossmith, who has now joined Mr. Mansfield's company, and whose performance of the languid swell is a wonderful improvement upon his acting at the Gaiety, and is decidedly better even than his Jacques Sstrap at the Lyceum. As a light comedian Mr. Grossmith should yet make his mark. Everybody knows, I suppose, that he is an excellent amateur painter.

The management of the Princess's Theatre sent out printed paragraphs (I, at least, received one) announcing that Miss Grace Hawthorne would appear on Christmas Eve (or, rather, Christmas afternoon) as Nancy Sikes in the first of a series of matinées of "Oliver Twist." How is it that this announcement has never been verified? and how comes the management to send out such paragraphs and yet not "play up" to them?

Nearly everybody was at Drury Lane on Boxing Night. I say nearly everybody, because, late in the evening, I passed Miss Kate Vaughan in the lobby of the Juddell, where, presumably, she had been to see Patti Rosa, so every notability was not at Mr. Harris's big show. But Lord Loudeborough was there, with a party of six; and so was Miss Edith Woodworth's husband, in a small box-stage. In another box was Mr. Gillie Farquhar, and round about me in the stalls were Mrs. Marini, and Miss Lily Clay, and Captain Shaw, and Mr. Manville Fenn, and Miss Caroline Hill, and Mr. Sala, and Mr. Ashby-Sterry—and more others than I can stop to name.

By the way, what a draught there was from the stage when the beginning of the panorama scene was first displayed. It came over the stalls like a cold sirocco (if one can imagine such a thing), and caused (in my quarter) a general wrappings up of legs and throats. This sort of visitation should be avoided if possible.

Talking of pantomimes, how the provincial productions do draw upon the stock of London talent. Both Miss Alma Stanley and Miss Minnie Cunningham left "Atalanta" (at the Strand) in order to fulfil country engagements. Miss Grace Huntley and Miss Alice Lethbridge have gone to Bristol, Miss Laura Linden and Miss Kate Everleigh to Liverpool, Miss Fannie Leslie and Miss Wilkinson to Manchester, and Miss Josephine Findlay and Mr. Lionel Rennold to Newcastle.

And the call upon the music halls is not less—perhaps it is even more—notable. Thus, Miss Addie Conyers has been engaged for Brighton, Miss Minnie Mario for Manchester, Miss Billee Barlow for Edinburgh, while Sam Keedren, the Two Maids, and Miss Lottie Collins are all in Manchester. And the list might be very largely extended.

It appears to be believed that Mr. Conyngham Carr's pamphlet, "Macbeth and Lady Macbeth," is a semi-official publication intended to make the public acquainted beforehand with the view taken by Miss Ellen Terry of the character of Macbeth's wife. What that view is I conjecture to my readers a few weeks ago. It embodies the theory that Lady Macbeth was no dead in human shape, but a very woman-feminine to the finger-tips. I am ready to be convinced, but how this conception is to be made even plausible I at the present fail to see.

JACK ALLROUND.

"Will you kindly inform me the best way to polish a floor with beeswax and oil or anything else which would be better?" writes "Beeswax." As an essential preliminary the floor should be perfectly even and without obtruding nail-heads. My correspondent does not say whether his floor is parquet or common deal boards. I assume it is the latter. Let the floor be thoroughly scrubbed. If soap is used it must be washed off. When quite dry paint the boards over with oak stain, using a soft whitewashing brush. Allow the stain to dry for twenty-four hours, then with thin size go carefully over it, using the same brush, and allow the size also to dry for twenty-four hours. While the above processes are taking place prepare the beeswax as follows:—To one pound of beeswax allow two quarts of spirits of turpentine; put the latter in a stone bottle, and finely shred the wax into it, place them near the fire, and frequently shake until the wax is entirely dissolved, when it is ready to be applied. Varnish the floor with a paint brush evenly, leaving no spot untouched. When well soaked in, the rest is to be polished with a rather hard brush (the proper kind for the purpose can be got at the oil shop) until a good bright surface is obtained. These directions are intended for an ordinary sitting-room; the preparation of a polished floor for dancing is not quite the same.

I am asked by "A Constant Reader" how to make Indian chutney. It is made in several ways, with mangoes, tomatoes, green gooseberries, &c. As apples are more generally obtainable, I give the following recipe:—"Take of apples peeled, cored, and quartered half a pound; put them into a pint of good vinegar, and boil until the apples are soft enough to pulp; let them cool. Take four ounces stoned raisins, eight ounces brown sugar, two ounces garlic, and two ounces mustard seed; pound up each of these separately in a mortar, then mix them together, adding two ounces each of ground ginger and one ounce of cayenne, and pound this mixture up well together in a mortar. Having done so, add them and mix them well with the vinegar and pulped apples, and put the whole into an earthenware jar; set it in a warm place by the fire till next morning, when the chutney may be put into small jars and tied down. It will keep well for a couple of years.

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I reply to "D. W.," who asks me how to make a semi-transparent tracing paper without using oil, to match a sample which he sends. I certainly cannot have his specimen tested as he suggests, but the recipes below may suit his purpose. To six ounces of best spirits of turpentine, add a quarter of an ounce of gum mastic; put them in a bottle and shake frequently day by day until the gum has dissolved and mixed with the spirits, when it is ready for use. The mixture sometimes thickens through the evaporation of the spirit. When this occurs a little of the latter may be added and well shaken through. Lay the best quality white tissue paper on a flat board, pour the mixture with a soft broad brush, and hang the paper up to dry. I have occasionally used this myself, but do not consider it transparent enough for delicate work. Half an ounce of beeswax, finely shred, and put into a bottle containing half a pint of spirits of turpentine, the two occasionally shaken together until the wax is dis-

solved and completely amalgamated. The mixture then applied as above, but to both sides of the tissue paper, gives a paper very similar to that sent by my correspondent.

On behalf of "A Young Beginner," who is anxious to make beef and pork sausages, "Country Butcher," who has made large quantities of both to supply a "great demand," very kindly tells me how he used to manufacture them:—"For beef, take four pounds of beef, about one pound being fat. Take half a pound of the crumb of stale bread, and put it into hot water; let it remain until the meat is properly minced, then take it out without pressing any of the water from it, place it on the minced meat, add two ounces of salt and half an ounce of white pepper; thoroughly mix all together and put into well-cleaned skins. This makes six pounds. The 'sticken,' or neck of beef, is the proper thing to use."

"To make six pounds of pork sausages, take four pounds of fat and lean pork well minced, half a pound of bread soaked in hot water as above, two ounces of salt, half an ounce of pepper, and about one tablespoonful of dried sage rubbed fine; well mix and put into clean skins, as for beef. The bread in both cases must be put into the water whole."

"J. E.," who has "tried all kinds of remedies without avail," and several other correspondents ask me for cures or how to banish chilblains. Persons with a weak circulation are often sufferers, and without this constitutional tendency a still larger number of persons, full-grown and young, who, having let their feet or hands get thoroughly chilled, suddenly warm them by thrusting them close to the fire, create chilblains for themselves. Good food, warm clothing, especially warm socks and gloves, and plenty of exercise in the open air in cold, wet weather, are the best preventives of chilblains. When your hands or feet are thoroughly chilled it is wise to be patient. Rub back the circulation to them if you please, but otherwise let the heat return gradually. If you have chilblains the following is a good liniment:—One teaspoonful flour of mustard in half a pint spirits of turpentine, mixed well, and shaken now and again for twenty-four hours, then strained clear through muslin; keep it closely corked. Rub the liniment into the chilblains if unbroken two or three times a day. If broken, I have heard of the pulp

RAILWAY MEN AS SOLDIERS.

At a recent conference of military men at Aldershot on the subject of the concentration of troops in time of emergency, it was pointed out that, in time of war, the Government has the power of taking possession and control of all railways; but, it being recognised that in such a time it would be most desirable that the working should remain in the hands of those who are accustomed to their management, a scheme has been advanced for largely strengthening the Army Reserve in the matter of railway troops for home defence. It is stated that the Great Northern Railway Company has given a general consent to a large number of its employees, principally engaged at the King's Cross establishment and the Metropolitan suburban stations, being enlisted in the Royal Engineers, in order to form a railway battalion, and it is understood that the movement will be further extended to other principal stations. As at present proposed the men will be drafted to the First-class Army reserve, being therefore placed on much the same footing as the men of the Railway Volunteer Corps formed from the North-Western system at Crewe and the Army Postal Corps in London, and therefore liable to be called out for service at home or abroad, whenever a call may be made on the reserve. The strength of the proposed new corps is put down at 400, and the men will, for purposes of drill and administration, be attached to the East London Engineer Volunteers. It is further proposed that Royal Engineer officers should be appointed to act with the general manager and an engineer official of each company in preparing complete information for the quartermaster-general's department as to the lines, works, and rolling stock of the railway, and the possibilities of entraining and detraining troops at each station. The rediness of the railway companies to co-operate with the War Department in preparation for mobilisation is highly appreciated by the Commander-in-Chief and the Secretary for War.

A FEARFUL STRUGGLE.

Relating the drowning of Francis McCauley by being carried over the dam at New Milford, Conn., the Gazette of that place tells an interesting story of the escape of his companion, Henry Garvey, who was saved after a terrible struggle in the water. He says:—"Realising that the boat must go over the falls, he leapt towards them when almost on their brink. He felt himself going feet foremost, and he had the presence of mind to turn and go down head first. Over he went into a boiling whirlpool, and arising found the bottom of the boat on him; he seized it, but the mast and the sail dragging in the water made the craft unmanageable. Garvey had received a benumbing blow on the leg from the boat as he arose, and he felt something soft strike it, which he now thinks must have been the body of McCauley, who then, perhaps, received a fatal blow. Finding the boat of no avail, Garvey left and swam under water, hoping to get beyond the bounds of the whirlpool. Rising to the surface, he was carried back to where the boat was. Weighed down by a heavy overcoat and thick boots in the midst of imprisoning circles of roaring waters, his case was indeed desperate. But he bravely rallied, shot under the water again, and as he rose, by a mighty effort threw himself beyond the eddies and passed down the stream, where the water tumbled and roared over hidden rocks. He felt his foot strike a rock. He let himself down, hoping he could find a standing place. He went down into a gulf. It seemed as if he would never gain the surface, but he finally rose, and shooting here and there through the zig-zag currents, rapidly went down stream. As he approached the west shore he saw men on the bank. They encouraged him with cries. He gained the shore when all strength had gone from his legs and he could only feebly move his hands. George Ferris pulled him out of the water, and he fell unconscious."

HORRIBLE BRUTALITY TO A WIFE.

At the Liverpool Assizes on Saturday, James Neil, labourer, was indicted for the wilful murder of his wife, at Garston.—Both were addicted to drink, and lived unhappily together. The prisoner frequently ill-treating his wife. On the 29th of August last the neighbours heard them quarrelling, and on going into the house found the woman on the floor and the prisoner kneeling over her, and dashing her head against the floor. He said he would swing for her. The neighbours went for the police, and on returning found the door locked. The panel was broken in, and it was seen that the prisoner had put a bacon box on his wife's stomach, and was jumping on the box. The prisoner also struck his wife several times on the head with a stool, dragged her towards a coal hole, and there kicked her severely about the lower parts of the body. By this time the woman's clothes were almost torn from her body, but the prisoner dragged her towards the fireplace, saying, "If I cannot kill you I'll roast you." He then upon drew some cinders from the fire, and must have placed them upon her, as some severe burns were found upon her breast. The deceased woman remained more or less conscious all the time, and when the policeman arrived he came to the conclusion that she was drunk, and he went away, and three days afterwards she died.—The jury found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to sixteen years' penal servitude.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A shocking attempt at murder and suicide was made at Leicester on Saturday afternoon. A man named Middleton, a plumper, in a fit of jealousy is alleged to have attacked his wife with a hammer, inflicting severe injuries about the head. Neighbours entered the house on hearing the screams, and found the woman in a pool of blood, and unconscious. The police were called to, and in the meantime Middleton is stated to have cut his own throat with a sharp knife. Both were removed to the infirmary, and at eight o'clock on Saturday the woman was still unconscious, but Middleton's wound is only superficial. The couple had been married several years and have nine children.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

H.M.S. Audacious, which recently returned from the China Station, has been ordered to be paid off at Devonport on the 18th January.

On Saturday Lieutenant-Colonel H. H. Roberts was appointed to command the 3rd Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and Major E. T. Hughes is promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-colonel, and appointed to the command the 2nd Kent Artillery Volunteers, in place of Colonel E. Hughes, M.P., resigned.

Last week Sergeant-major Mockler, doing duty with the depot of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, was selected for a commission as quartermaster and hon. lieutenant, after twenty-one years' service in the ranks. He takes over the appointment of quartermaster of the 3rd Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers, in place of Captain Gage, retired.

Mr. Jonathan Priestman, a Tyneside colliery owner and brother-in-law to Mr. John Bright, died suddenly Saturday morning at his residence near Newcastle.

Senor del Maro, the Spanish ambassador to the Court of St. James's, and who presented his letters of recall to the Queen on the 15th inst., left London on Saturday for Madrid.

Information was on Saturday intimated to Dr. Macdonald that Mrs. Whittington, of 71, Lefevre-road, Bow, had been found dead in bed on the previous day.

Mr. George P. Wyatt last week held an inquest, at the King Henry the Eighth Tavern, Lambeth, relative to the death of a newly-born male child, whose body was found by the police in the Burton-road, Brixton, on Monday night. The body was wrapped in a piece of brown paper and a diaper, upon which was stamped "W. No. 3." An open verdict of found dead was returned.

CO-OPERATION AGAINST THE SWEATING SYSTEM.

A large social meeting of the Workwomen's Co-operation Association was held on Saturday at Toynbee Hall, Commercial-street, under the presidency of Mr. R. Stapley. This association has been formed for the purpose of carrying on business usually conducted by middlemen, with the object of testing, by practical experiment, whether the proportion paid by middlemen, called the "sweat," to workwomen and others out of the actual sums received by them for the various kinds of needle, machine, and other work is reasonable, or whether it is possible, by means of a better organisation, or by co-operation, to secure for the workers better remuneration. It has been felt that the best method of effecting the objects stated is by means of a limited liability company. The business will be conducted in all respects as a commercial concern, and with the object of earning a reasonable profit on the capital invested.

It is, however, provided by the articles of association that any profit which may be made will not be divided among the shareholders, but will be held at the disposal of the association to further any scheme for the advancement of the class whom it is intended to benefit. It is also hoped that in a reasonable time workers themselves may become proprietors of shares from the present holders, in order that the experiment may be converted into a co-operative association. The principle upon which this can be best done will, however, be decided after the result of twelve months' working is known. A tailoring business in full working order has, after careful valuation, been purchased by the association, and the late proprietor, who has hitherto conducted the business in a very efficient manner, has been engaged to carry it on at a reasonable salary. The directors estimate that the amount required for fairly carrying out the scheme will be about £2,000, of which about £1,000 has been already subscribed. The shirt-workers came over in a body to the new association from Poplar, where a workwoman's protection society is carried on under the direction of Mr. W. J. Walker, and they are now incorporated in the Co-operation Association. The factory is situated in Walden-street, Commercial-road, where about 130 hands are employed—forty shirt-workers and ninety tailoresses—all of whom are earning good wages.—

Having been disposed of, the chairman, in proposing a vote of thanks for the use of the hall, said the association had been formed for the purpose of remedying some of the evils which had been brought to light through the commission started last July, which had exposed the general state of things existing among large classes of workpeople—especially those connected with the tailoring and shirt-making trades. The state of things that was brought to light was a disgrace to our civilisation and Christianity. (Cheers.) The directors were taking the place of the sweater. The sweater had given the very lowest price possible for the making of the garments, and had reaped for himself a large profit for the trouble of simply going to the warehouses and giving out the work. The directors had found the money necessary for the working of the association, and would receive no interest for it, nor any payment for their services. (Cheers.) If it was shown that those who were employed in the factory were receiving better wages than they would have been receiving in the workshops, then the shares might be offered to all those engaged in the factory. (Cheers.) There was no reason why, if a proper state of things existed, the workpeople should not look forward to going to work with as great pleasure as going for a holiday. (Hear, hear.) He thought that that would be the case if the hours were within reasonable limits, and the workpeople were not taxed above their strength. (Cheers.) Mr. Walker hoped the association would spread its wings until it embraced all classes of female labour in the East-end; and he wished in twelve months hence to be able to tell a very grateful story of the association. He concluded by seconding the vote of thanks, which was carried with acclamation.—

Mr. Gardner, in reply, said the task the association had set themselves to accomplish was one of enormous difficulty; but he did not for one moment despair of its ultimate success if they all went forward, bound together by this one principle—each willing and anxious to give the best of his time and the best of his life to the service of others. (Cheers.) That seemed to him to be the best and very noblest cause to which any of them could give their time; and he hoped on many future occasions he might welcome the association within those walls. (Cheers.) A concert followed, which was much appreciated by those present.

SHIPPING DISASTERS AND LOSS OF LIFE.

The barque Etta, of Belfast, from St. John's to Fleetwood, with coal, was driven ashore during Friday night at Creaden Head, at the entrance of Waterford Harbour. The vessel had on board a crew of seventeen hands, together with the captain's wife. Some of the men saved themselves by swimming ashore, while the woman and others were removed on Saturday by the Dunmore lifeboat. The captain, who remained by his vessel longer than the others, was drowned.—The owners of the steamer Sarah Ann, of Hartlepool, which left Cardiff with a cargo of coals for Malta in September last, have given up all hope of the vessel, which is believed to have foundered with all hands, twenty-one in number.

FUNERAL OF SIR WILLIAM PEARCE, M.P.

The remains of the late Sir William Pearce, M.P. for the Govan Division of Lanarkshire, were removed on Saturday from Piccadilly, and conveyed by rail from Victoria to Gillingham Church, near Chatham, for interment. A special train left Victoria at twelve o'clock, for Gillingham, for the convenience of about a hundred relatives, friends, and members of Parliament who desired to be present at the funeral. The chief mourners were Sir W. G. Pearce, son of the deceased, and Mr. Barnwell. Over forty mourning coaches followed the remains to the grave. The coffin plate bore the inscription—"Sir W. Pearce, Baron of Cardell, Inverkin, N.B. Born January 8th, 1838; died December 15th, 1888."

LOVE AND SUICIDE.

A sad case of suicide was reported on Saturday from Ballywattie, county Down. A young woman named Jane Megaw, about 25 years of age, the daughter of a farmer, was engaged to be married to a man, who, it is alleged, deserted her, and who a short time previous to her death was married to another woman. This greatly preyed on Megaw's mind, and she disappeared, and on a search being made her dead body was found in a pool of water near her home. A stone weighing 14lb. was attached to her dress, and the suicide appears to have been most deliberate.

FATAL CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.

Dr. Symons, of Kingswear, Torquay, was descending the hill at Milber Down near his home when his horse became frightened and ran away. At the bottom of the road the shaft broke, and Dr. Symons was thrown violently into the road, and sustained such injuries to his head that he died on Saturday from concussion of the brain. The deceased, who was held in high esteem, was unmourned.

Early on Saturday morning a fire broke out in the large manufactory belonging to Mr. Thomas, cabinet-maker, Cardiff, and in an hour the building was a heap of ruins, the damage being estimated at over £3,000.

Last week the metropolitan police were endeavouring to trace the identity of a lady who went into a chemist's shop with a little boy at Charlton-next-Woolwich and expired there.

The child is in the possession of the coroner's officer, and is about 18 months old. There are no laurels or marks on their clothing to give a clue.

Mr. Wynne E. Baxter held an inquest on Saturday on the body of George Pitt, aged 36, a fisherman, of 2, Castle-place, Whitechapel. On the previous day deceased went to visit his brother at 29, Baker-street, and while there was seized with a fit and died.

SUSPECTED MURDER.

The body of a young woman named Annie Morgan, schoolmistress, very well connected, was found in a River Tax at Cardiff on Saturday afternoon. A week ago deceased went, in company with her mother, to visit a sick relative. Arrived at the door, the mother knocked, and on turning round to speak to her daughter a moment later, she found she had disappeared. The girl's hat was found a few days later near the Glamorganshire Canal, but the body was discovered in the river two or three miles in another direction. No motive for suicide can be suggested by the unhappy parents, who fear that their daughter, who was a steady and religious girl, has been the victim of foul play. The police have been investigating the matter for a week, but without any result. So great is the mystery in which the affair is involved that a general feeling of uneasiness prevails in the town.

CRYSTAL PALACE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING.

On Saturday the distribution of prizes gained in the 29th session of this school was performed in the South Tower at the Crystal Palace by Mr. James Mansergh, M.I.C.E., in the presence of a large number of the friends of the pupils. The report for this session showed thirty-eight students in attendance, of whom twenty-two out of thirty eligible for examination had satisfactorily passed. The examiners, Mr. W. H. Holtham and Mr. J. J. Talman, who had respectively inspected the mechanical, colonial, and civil engineering divisions of the school, both testified to the high standard of efficiency reached. Mr. Talman concludes his report by expressing especial satisfaction with the work of the second civil engineering term, the extreme neatness and accuracy of the drawings throughout the school, and the general accuracy of the calculations.—Mr. Mansergh, in an address to the pupils, contrasted the superior advantages enjoyed by the students of that school at the end of the eighties with those available in the best of the schools forty years ago, or in the forties, as he expressed it, when he was listening as a student to lecturers even so eminent as John Tyndall, E. Frankland, and Fothergill Cooke, who with Wheatstone was the pioneer of the electric telegraph. He would have given a great deal to have had the course of practical engineering which the students before him had had provided for them in that admirable institution, before going out, as he did many years ago, to South America, where they found works that required the exercise of their physical as well as mental resources to the highest extent. In the construction of fifty miles of road, with no guide but a plan which was not of the slightest use, he was compelled to practice in turn almost every art and handicraft. He had heard no better definition of the term technical education than that given by Mr. Middleton at the meeting of the Institute of Civil Engineers a few days ago. Technical education was defined as that form of teaching which was best adapted to fit a man for the work he had to do in life. He could not forget how, when he got out to Brazil, he regretted that his limited knowledge of physiography and geology deprived him of the power of utilising innumerable opportunities which presented themselves. They could not learn too much. Among the subjects which they would find it of the greatest advantage to acquire a practical knowledge beforehand was photography, which would be useful to them in a thousand ways. In conclusion a regret was expressed that the term English was not, at the present time, that guarantee of whatever was good, honest, and true that it once had been. He trusted that those pupils of the school who proposed to themselves a colonial career would do their utmost to restore the English name and fame for sound, honest, and earnest work in whatever they might undertake. The prize-winners were then declared by Mr. F. K. Stenton, the superintendent of the Crystal Palace School, among the most successful pupils being P. B. Motley, C. Caramurn, A. M. A. Struben, W. G. Wales, E. M. Proes, M. H. Butler, A. M. Templear, and C. L. Kitto, who all obtained more than seventy-five per cent. of the maximum marks, and carried off respectively several certificates.—Mr. S. Green, on behalf of the chairman and the board of directors of the Palace Company, the two examiners, and Mr. Wilson, C.E., the headmaster, also addressed the company. Mr. Wilson said sixteen years ago they opened the school with eight pupils, but so great had been its progress that they had passed since then 742 students through the school, from almost all of whom they had the most satisfactory reports. After an absence for a longer or shorter period abroad they found them constantly coming back to see if the South Tower was still in existence, and in the cases of all except a few who had left the profession, it was pleasant to find them all succeeding more or less completely. It might interest the visitors to know that during the sixteen years of the existence of the school no fewer than 25,000 drawings had been executed, and during the same period he himself delivered 1,600 lectures. (Cheers.) A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Mansergh on the proposition of Mr. S. Green, and in acknowledging it the president pointed out what appeared to him to be the only element lacking in the school. His experience led him to conclude that the employment to which engineers would have to devote their attention in the future was not so much railway work as sanitary engineering and water supply, and he should be glad to see the hint acted upon in the preparation of future courses of instruction in the school.

THE FIGHTING IN HAITI.

A steamer which has arrived at New York bringing the latest advices from Hayti reports that at the severe battle of Mirabalais recently the rebels defeated the Government troops with heavy loss of life. M. Cavalho, the nephew of the leader Hippolyte, has arrived in New York. He states that the Government will be unable to maintain their position. It is understood that Germany intends sending some war-ships to exact reparation for the damage recently inflicted upon the German vessel Cremona by one of the blocking squadron. It is reported that Hippolyte is sending an agent to Europe with the view of buying a man-of-war to further the interests of his party. Despatches from Washington report that Mr. Secretary Bayard told the agent from Hayti that he would recognise neither faction there until the people had declared themselves.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH ON VAUXHALL BRIDGE.

A reporter was last week informed at the Lambeth Mortuary lodge, that Mr. Wyatt, deputy coroner for the North-eastern Division of Surrey, deemed it unnecessary to hold an inquest on the body of Mr. Thomas Hardy, aged 47 years, a retired colonial merchant, residing at Belgrave-road, Pimlico, who was found in a dying state on Vauxhall Bridge on Wednesday. The deceased, who was well known amongst the cricket circle at Kennington Oval and in the City, was much respected.

The Prince of Wales, Prince Albert Victor, and suite left Marlborough House on Saturday afternoon for Sandringham, where they spent Christmas with the Princess of Wales.

One of the horses used on the stage line near Albany has a heavy moustache. People who have examined the horse and the remarkable growth of hair on its upper lip say they never saw anything to equal it.

The Duchess of Teck, accompanied by Princess Victoria and Princess Francis and Alexander George of Teck, on the 29th inst. opened a new mission hall in the neighbourhood of the Victoria Docks, at the East-end.

Mr. Wynne E. Baxter held an inquest on Saturday on the body of George Pitt, aged 36, a fisherman, of 2, Castle-place, Whitechapel. On the previous day deceased went to visit his brother at 29, Baker-street, and while there was seized with a fit and died.

THE COMMANDER AT SUAKIN.



EAST AFRICAN BLOCKADE.

Official Correspondence.

Further correspondence was published on Saturday afternoon on the subject of the difficulties between the German East African Company and the natives on the Zanzibar coast. The despatches, 153 in number, date from 1st April to the 5th inst. Commencing with the accession of the Sultan Seyyid Khalifa the earlier despatches deal principally with the negotiations between the German East African Company and the Sultan for the concession of certain territory, and the steps taken by them in the taking over the administration of the coast. Colonel Euan-Smith, the British political agent at Zanzibar, telegraphed on August 17th that the German Company formally received from the Sultan the charge of the coast line on the previous day. Disturbances appear to have broken out at Panganzi and Bagamoyo immediately afterwards, and Colonel Euan-Smith counselled all the British subjects to stand aloof. Then follow a long list of despatches referring to the coast disturbances. Colonel Euan-Smith prohibited the export of arms by British subjects to the coast, and Lord Salisbury telegraphed his approval of the step. Lord Salisbury further advised the British agent on October 25th that her Majesty's Government proposed to unite with that of Germany in concerning measures for the prevention of the slave trade and trade in munitions of war on that portion of the Zanzibar coast within German and English spheres of influence, and that a joint blockade would be instituted for these purposes with the consent of the Sultan. The formal agreement with the German Government was telegraphed to Colonel Euan-Smith on November 5th. On November 19th, Lord Salisbury intimated to Sir Edward Malet the official agreement between Count Hatfield and himself for the blockade. Lord Salisbury also communicated to Sir Edward Malet the agreement of the Portuguese Government to blockade the coast of Mozambique against the export of slaves and the export of arms. Colonel Euan-Smith telegraphed on November 29th announcing the proclamation of the blockade by the Sultan, and on December 8th Sir Edward Malet reported to Lord Salisbury that the Italian Government would notify immediately the official participation of Italy in the blockade.

THE HON. ARTILLERY COMPANY.

The adjourned court of the Hon. Artillery Company was held on Saturday afternoon. There were present Messrs. Helsham, Holt, Brooking, Prendergast, Evans, Gibson, Spencer, Reynolds, Bosanquet, Mc'Kenzie, Stohwasser, Hammond, Baker, Durrant, Farnell, Nunn, Jones, Fairkes, Pash, Fry, Hammond, Birkett, Twigg, Sanderson, altogether about 100 members being in attendance. Major Jones moved, and Major Durrant seconded, to go into committee.—Major Bosanquet asked whether members would be admitted to hear the report.—Major Jones stated that when they heard what he had to state they would see the wisdom of the course proposed.—A committee was formed, and the members withdrew.—Later on the members were admitted, and the chairman reported that the committee had adjourned. No information was given as to the interview at the War Office.—On the motion of Major Bosanquet, "That this court having read in the Times newspaper that day a statement to the effect that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had been informed at the recent general court it was mentioned at the recent general court it was unanimously resolved that his Royal highness should be informed that the members indignantly repudiate such slander, and beg to assure his Royal highness of their continued loyalty to him," asking by whom the statement was made.—Major Bosanquet gave notice for a court in January: "That the Court of Assistants welcome the promise given in the House of Commons by the Secretary of War that an inquiry should be held into the charges of insubordination which have been made against the regiment, and pledge themselves to assist in every way to make such inquiry full and searching and satisfactory to the members generally."

borrowing power of the country, besides lightening the load of the National Debt by an annual sum of nearly a million and a half. Thirdly, the continuation of the purchasing powers under Lord ASHBOURNE'S Act, for the benefit of the Irish farmers, must not be forgotten. In spite of the disengaged conduct of the Opposition in resisting the extension of the Act, the Government were able to prove the great desire of the Irish tenants to purchase and to carry the bill through at last, in spite of determined obstruction in committee.

Turning to the foreign relations of our country, we find a state of things which contrasts most pleasingly with that which was wont to prevail when Mr. GLADSTONE presided over our national destinies. The QUEEN'S Speech at the prorogation of Parliament on Christmas Eve was able to announce the existence of perfectly satisfactory relations with all foreign Powers, and throughout the year the diplomatic horizon has been cloudless, for the rejection of the Fisheries Treaty by the American Senate, and the excitement caused by the regrettable SACKVILLE incident, cannot be considered to have disturbed the prevailing calm in any appreciable degree. We have had a certain number of small skirmishes in Sikkim and with the men of the Black Mountain. The rebellion in Afghanistan, which might have involved us in trouble, has been suppressed by the AMER's troops, while a like fate has overtaken the attempt at rebellion by certain Zulu chiefs. General GREENWELL'S brilliant little victory at Suakin concludes the list of the little wars of the year, a list short enough when one considers the vast extent and varied responsibilities of the British empire. At home all has gone well, although one must admit that much might have gone better. Ireland is still a source of trouble, as, indeed, she must be so long as her people cherish the delusive hope of Home Rule. Nevertheless, things in Ireland are distinctly better than they were a year ago, and there is good hope that the future will see even greater progress than the past in the great work of pacification. Meanwhile, trade has been steadily recovering. True, the improvement has not come upon us "by leaps and bounds," but it has come—steadily, if slowly. In every department of trade confidence has been reviving, prices have been going up, and the country's commerce has been passing out of the long period of depression which crushed it down. Finally, a mild and open winter, combined with commercial briskness, has averted that excess of suffering among the poorer classes—especially in London—which we have had to deplore in past years. Altogether, then, there is much to be thankful for in the history of 1888.

Should England become involved in a big war—which it is by no means impossible that she may at any time—we shall find that our railways and our railway men will play an considerable part in it. It is, therefore, satisfactory to know that serious steps are being taken on the part of the War Office to prepare our railway men for that part. These steps are being met half-way by the railway companies in a most praiseworthy spirit. The North-Western already has a Volunteer corps of its own, and now the Great Northern has sanctioned the formation of a battalion from the number of its employés, which is to be attached to the East London Engineer Volunteers. The movement is expected to spread, and we heartily hope it may. If every railway possessed a body of men trained to military work, the benefit would be incalculable in time of war, as continental nations who possess such forces are well aware. And war may come, as we said before, at any moment; for only a spark is necessary to explode the European powder magazine.

Observers of the people of London and their way of taking their pleasure this Christmas-tide cannot fail to have experienced some mental satisfaction at the behaviour of the multitude. Never, as far as we are aware, has Christmas been observed with less drunkenness, disorder, and debauchery than on the present occasion. The police reports, which are unerring witnesses to the holiday behaviour of the masses, only chronicle the average, or less than the average, daily number of charges, while the state of the streets has been, on the whole, excellent. The fact of the matter is that London people are gradually learning to spend their holidays better than they used to do. They go out to see sights and take trips by rail instead of staying at home to get drunk. This pleasing change is largely due to the institution of bank holidays, which has accustomed Londoners (and Englishmen generally) to taking holidays, and has taught them that intoxication is not the only form of enjoyment open to a man with money to spend. We have noted the change with pleasure, and we congratulate our fellow-citizens upon it.

SUBURBAN STREET LIGHTING.

Owing to the high price charged by the companies supplying gas to the parishes of Finchley and Barnet, and their refusal to make what the local governing authorities consider a reasonable charge for street lighting, the local boards of health of Finchley and Friern Barnet have now obtained tenders for lighting the streets of a portion of their district with new patent oil lamps, and the price quoted by the firms submitting the tenders are considerably below those charged by the gas companies. Barnet has already abandoned gas for street lighting, but instead of using oil they now have their thoroughfares lighted with electricity. The parishes of Finchley and Friern Barnet, however, are much more straggling than that of Barnet, and consequently the expense of electric lighting is considered to be a subject for consideration in the future rather than at present, and therefore the only other way open by which the authorities think they may force the gas companies to lower their prices is by using oil. The yearly sum paid by both these parishes is considerable, necessitating a heavy rate; and, notwithstanding this, the companies refuse to contract for a sum anywhere near that charged in other parishes, and the consequence is that, in order to save expenditure, the local boards give strict orders for the lamps to be turned out after the arrival of the last train from the City, and also on moonlight nights. The hour at which the gas is turned out and the "moonlight night" arrangement cause much dissatisfaction in the parishes.

THE POPLAR TRAGEDY.

Identification of the Victim.
The police have succeeded in establishing the identity of the unfortunate woman who was murdered in Clarke's Yard, High-street, Poplar. She was known in Poplar by the name of Downey, or Downe, and in White-chapel, which it has been discovered was the last neighbourhood in which she resided, by the name of Davis. Both these, however, were assumed names. The police secured the attendance at the Poplar mortuary on Christmas Day of Elizabeth Usher, the head nurse at the Bromley Sick Asylum, where the deceased woman was stated to have been an inmate. Miss Usher immediately recognised the woman as Rose Mylett, who had been an inmate of that institution on many occasions. Little doubt is entertained that the name under which Miss Usher recognised her is her real name, for the books of the asylum were referred to, and it was discovered that she last entered the asylum on the 20th of January, 1888, and discharged herself on the 14th of March. On each occasion she went in under the same name. The deceased had informed most of her acquaintances that she had a mother living in Baker's-row, or Old Montague-street, Spitalfields. The police, however, failed to discover any relatives in that neighbourhood, but have found that the deceased resided in a common lodging-house in George-street, Spitalfields. This house is next door to the lodging-house in which the last victim of the Whitechapel murderer lived. Mary Smith, the deputy at this establishment, described the deceased as being "a very respectable person." She said the deceased had lodged with her for about three months, and had, until within the last fortnight, had a companion in a man named Goodson, but this man had not seen the deceased for the past two weeks. The last time Mrs. Smith saw the deceased was on the night of the 17th inst., when, between six and seven o'clock, Rose Mylett left for Poplar. Mrs. Smith giving her twopence to pay her train fare. The deceased was seen the same evening about midnight by Jenny Hall. At half-past two she was seen in Commercial-road by Alice Groves, who lodged with the deceased at 18, George-street, outside the George with two men, apparently seamen. When seen by these two women she was the worse for liquor. A young girl, residing in High-street, Poplar, named Ned Green, has made a statement regarding two men, apparently sailors, whom she saw under suspicious circumstances near the scene of the murder. She says that a short time before Sergeant Golding found the body of Rose Mylett two sailors came up to her in a great hurry in the High-street, and inquired the way to the West India Docks. She directed them, whereupon one of the men said to the other, "Make haste, Bill, and we shall be in time to catch the ship." The police are endeavouring to follow up this clue; but their endeavours have not been successful.

More About the Murdered Woman.

SERIOUS ASSAULT BY A POACHER.
The police have succeeded in finding Mrs. Mylett, the mother of the woman found dead in Clarke's Yard, Poplar, last week. The deceased woman had frequently spoken of her mother living somewhere near Baker's-row, Whitechapel, and it was near this thoroughfare—in Pelham-street—that Mrs. Mylett was found to be residing. When the detectives called at the house on Boxing Day they found the inmates enjoying a Christmas party, and upon their stating the object of their visit one of the women had a serious fit. Upon visiting the mortuary Mrs. Mylett had no doubt that the body there was that of her daughter. She stated that she last saw the deceased alive on the 18th ult., when she called at Pelham-street. The mother had frequently remonstrated with her daughter upon her mode of life, but without success. To a representative of the press who saw her on Thursday evening, Mrs. Mylett, who is an Irishwoman, stated that her daughter was born in London. Some years ago Rose (the deceased) married, unknown to her mother, a man named Davis, whom Mrs. Mylett believed was an upholsterer. The young couple had one child, but as they frequently disagreed they separated. This child is now in the South Metropolitan School, at Sutton, and is about 7 years of age. A curious fact in reference to the woman having had a child is that Dr. Brownfield, when at the inquest expressed the opinion that the deceased had never been a mother. A man named Charles Pottomoy, who is a lunatic attendant at the Poplar Union, has now come forward and made a statement to the effect that he saw the deceased on the night of her death near Clarke's Yard having an altercation with two men who appeared to be sailors. This bears out the assertion of a woman named Alice Graves, who knew the deceased well. She says that she saw the woman walking along in a very drunken state arm-in-arm with two men dressed as seamen. This is practically the only clue, if such it can be called, that the police have.

STRUGGLE WITH GAROTTERS IN EUSTON-ROAD.

Shortly after eleven o'clock on Sunday night, as Police-constable Collins, 330 Y, was passing through the Euston-road in plain clothes, his attention was attracted by the suspicious movements of four men. He determined to watch them, and presently saw them attack a gentleman named Casey from behind in a dark portion of the thoroughfare near the Midland Railway. Collins at once went to the rescue and seized one of the men, who was above Casey rifling his pockets. A desperate struggle ensued, and Collins blowing his whistle, two constables in uniform came up and gave chase to the three other men, who made off. Collins then received a blow on the head from some blunt instrument. The ruffian who struck him escaped, but did not get very far before Collins, who is a swift runner, overtook him, and a desperate struggle took place, in the course of which the garrotter lost the right sleeve of his coat and a portion of his trousers. Both men after rolling in the road, were literally covered with mud. All this time the man Casey was lying in an insensible condition with a severe cut on the back of the head. He had lost 14s. from his trouser pocket; 9s. 8d. was afterwards found in the road, where it had been thrown by one of the garrotters.

THE LIFE OF MAN TRAGEDY.
At Ramsey, Isle of Man, an inquiry was opened by the high bailiff in the Court House, which was densely crowded, touching the death of Elizabeth Crowe, who was found brutally murdered in a narrow bye-path near Ramsey which leads to several small farmhouses situated on the hills on the south side of the town. John Henry Jelling, who resides with his mother about 200 yards from where the deceased lived, was placed in the dock charged on suspicion with being connected with the crime. He is a strong, well-built young man, about 20 years of age, and preserved perfect silence during the inquiry. Mr. Nelson prosecuted for the Crown; and Mr. F. M. Lamotte appeared for the defence.—Inspector Barnet has already abandoned gas for street lighting, but instead of using oil they now have their thoroughfares lighted with electricity. The parishes of Finchley and Friern Barnet, however, are much more straggling than that of Barnet, and consequently the expense of electric lighting is considered to be a subject for consideration in the future rather than at present, and therefore the only other way open by which the authorities think they may force the gas companies to lower their prices is by using oil. The yearly sum paid by both these parishes is considerable, necessitating a heavy rate; and, notwithstanding this, the companies refuse to contract for a sum anywhere near that charged in other parishes, and the consequence is that, in order to save expenditure, the local boards give strict orders for the lamps to be turned out after the arrival of the last train from the City, and also on moonlight nights. The hour at which the gas is turned out and the "moonlight night" arrangement cause much dissatisfaction in the parishes.

THE CRUISER CHAMPION.

Her Majesty's cruiser Champion was officially inspected at Sheerness on Thursday by Admiral Lethbridge, commander-in-chief at the Nore, and passed out of hand as ready for sea. She is ordered to sail on Saturday for the Pacific Station. The Champion has been refitted at a cost of £30,000, and has been supplied with a new armament, consisting of four 6-inch and eight 3-inch breech-loading guns, four three-pounder quick-service guns, four machine-guns, and two torpedo-tubes. She is as powerful in every respect as any

STRANGE STORY OF A CONVICT.

A despatch from Chicago, dated December 14th, which appears in the New York World, says: "William Thomas, who was pardoned by Governor Ogleby yesterday, after serving six of the seventeen years to which he was sentenced for murder, will return to Chicago to-morrow. The story of the crime for which Thomas has suffered is a strange one, and furnished the plot for 'His Broken Sword,' a novel by Miss W. L. Taylor. In February, 1880, Hiram P. Allen, a wealthy farmer, living near Sandwich, Illinois, was murdered at night in his home, by burglars. It was supposed. Half-a-dozen young men living in and near Sandwich were arrested, including one or two admirers of Miss Libbie, daughter of the murdered man, and witness of the crime. No guilt was fastened on them, and they were released. The case was taken up by a Chicago detective agency, and William Thomas, 20 years old, was arrested in his brother's sasho here. At the same time, Clarence Woodworth, also of Chicago, was arrested, charged with Allen's murder. Thomas was found guilty, and, despite his strong protestations of innocence, was sent to Joliet Prison for seventeen years. Woodworth proved an alibi. The most important witness was Miss Libbie Allen, who swore she recognised Thomas's voice as one she heard during the scuffle between her father and his murderers. Another witness who implicated Thomas was the notorious Cora Munro, of Chicago, formerly a detective and later a revivalist. As a detective she formed the acquaintance of Thomas and Woodworth, and testified that she heard them talk of their part in the tragedy. Thomas's father, mother, and sister swore positively that he was at home on the night of the murder, occupying a bed with his father. Thomas donned the stripes and began his long term. No hope came to him until two years ago, when James Young, a fellow-convict, sent for the prison officials and made a confession, declaring himself the murderer of Hiram P. Allen, detailing all the circumstances, but holding back the name of his accomplice. Young pleaded guilty to the Allen murder, and was sentenced to life imprisonment. This apparently heavily penal young did not dread, for he knew death would soon release him. A year ago he died of consumption, leaving to the public a confession which excited great interest. Two men were suffering for the same deed who had never met until in the convict ranks. Governor Ogleby, however, at last concluded that Young had told the truth and issued the pardon. Mrs. Allen and daughter, Libbie, and Clarence Woodworth are living here. Cora Munro is still here, and several others whose names were connected with the case have forsaken Sandwich for Chicago."

SERIOUS ASSAULT BY A POACHER.

Edward Black, a labourer, was brought up in custody at the Faversham County Police Court, charged with having, on the 16th inst., unlawfully and maliciously wounded Chapman de Laune Faunce de Laune, a justice of the peace, with a gun. The prosecutor appeared in court with his head bandaged, and was seated.—The evidence given by him was to the effect that on the Sunday afternoon mentioned, between three and four, he was walking over his estate at Little Ruishton, and heard men and dogs in the direction of the road, but owing to the fog he did not see them. Presently he saw the prisoner with a gun searching about the hedges and went to him and told him he had caught him at last, adding that as he was searching for game with a gun on Sunday he must give the weapon up. Witness laid his hands on the gun, but as the prisoner seemed determined to retain it, witness let go and stepped aside. Just as he did so he felt a push at his side, and then a blow on his head. Blood commenced to pour over his face and eyes, and he looked up and saw the prisoner about to strike him again; he was grasping the barrel of his gun with both hands, and the stock was over his shoulder. Prosecutor jumped aside and ran away. The prosecutor added that he had been confined to his house ever since.—Dr. Phelps, of Green-street, stated that Mr. de Laune had a cut on his head two inches long and reaching to the bone.—Witnesses were called, who proved seeing the prisoner with a gun on the 16th inst.—Prisoner denied striking the prosecutor deliberately.—He was committed for trial.

THE OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

The thirty-first annual report of the delinquency under the statute of the delegates of local examinations for the present year has been issued. It states that the examinations were held in both June and July, beginning on June 4th and July 16th respectively, and were held at 65 centres, of which 23 were special local centres, at which school examinations were combined with the local examinations, and nine were new centres. The examinations in June were held at nine centres, at three of which both boys and girls, at one boys only, and at five girls only, were examined. The number of local candidates examined in June was 284—namely, 188 juniors and 96 seniors. The examinations in July were held at 56 centres, at 34 of which both boys and girls, at 15 boys only, and at seven girls only, were examined. The number of local candidates examined in July was 2,640—namely, 1,901 juniors and 739 seniors. The total number of candidates examined in 1888 was 2,904—namely, 2,080 juniors and 815 seniors. Of these 1,408 juniors and 587 seniors passed, making a total of 1,903. In addition to these, five persons who intended to become medical students were admitted to the junior examination, of whom one passed, and four persons who intended to present themselves for the degree of bachelor of music were admitted to the senior examination, of whom one passed. The total number of candidates and other persons entered for the examinations was 2,930, of whom 67 failed to present themselves for examination, and one was disqualified for having taken unfair advantage during the examination. The results of the examinations in 1887 and 1888 respectively were, in the former year as follows:—Examined, 1,279 junior boys, 508 junior girls; total, 1,737—of whom 842 boys and 318 girls, making a total of 1,160, passed; 332 senior boys and 84 senior girls—total, 416—were examined, of whom 244 boys and 339 girls—total, 583—passed. In 1888 these were—examined, 1,340 junior boys and 749 junior girls—total, 2,089—of whom 936 boys and 398 girls—total, 1,346—passed; 276 senior boys and 533 senior girls—total, 815—were examined, of whom 192 boys and 388 girls—total, 587—passed. In 1888, of the senior candidates, three girls were in the first class, nine in the second, and 22 in the third; of the juniors, two girls were placed in the first, 17 in the second, and 39 in the third class. Of the 86 seniors (10½ per cent.) who failed in preliminary subjects, 38 failed in grammar, &c., and 58 in arithmetic. Of those who failed in one preliminary subject only, 27 failed in grammar and 47 in arithmetic. Of the 229 juniors (11 per cent.) who failed in preliminary subjects, 33 failed in dictation, 85 in grammar, and 154 in arithmetic. Of those who failed in one preliminary subject only, 15 failed in dictation, 55 in grammar, and 122 in arithmetic. Twenty-two of the senior boys showed sufficient merit to be excused from examination, and 13 of the senior girls for exemption from the first examination for women. Last year 38 boys and 16 girls received exemption.

THE CRUISER CHAMPION.

Her Majesty's cruiser Champion was officially inspected at Sheerness on Thursday by Admiral Lethbridge, commander-in-chief at the Nore, and passed out of hand as ready for sea. She is

A MAN IN WOMAN'S CLOTHES.

At the Marlborough-street Police Court on Thursday, Charles Phillips, 18, a painter, was charged with being disorderly in Air-street, Piccadilly, shortly before eleven o'clock on Wednesday night.—Police-constable Barnard said that the prisoner was in Berwick-street, wearing woman's clothing. He was dancing in the midst of a crowd of people, and afterwards caused another crowd to collect in Air-street. He refused to go away, and was taken into custody. The prisoner, in his defence, said he had his trousers at the time, and was not aware that he was doing any harm. He called a witness to speak to his responsibility.—Mr. Newton observed that he saw a great deal of harm in the matter, and he should remand the accused for a week for inquiries to be made respecting him. Later in the day, however, the prisoner was again brought up, and was discharged with a caution.

A POSTAL EXPERIMENT.

A correspondent sent from Hampstead two post cards, addressed to himself, to care of a friend in Hong Kong, sending one via Brindisi and Singapore, and the other via New York, San Francisco and Yokohama, requesting his correspondent in Hong Kong to re-address them back to him, but sending each by the opposite route to that by which they went out from London. He now states that both cards returned to him again on Christmas Eve, the one which went eastward on October 12th reaching Hong Kong November 13th, and was despatched on November 25th. The former took seventy-three days and the latter seventy-five days for the round journey, and the entire cost on the former card was only 2d., and the latter 4d.

COULDN'T EAT HIM.

Particulars have been received from Cooktown of the murder at New Guinea of Captain Ansell of the ketch Star of Peace. When near Milne Bay, Captain Ansell, who was past middle age, was quiet in manner, and inoffensive in his habits, went ashore to collect copra, and mixed among the natives as usual without fear. He was without arms, and when fairly in their midst the natives caught hold of him. He struggled desperately, but the odds were too great, and he finally succumbed. The natives who gave this information say that he was tapped and found to be uneatable, and so they buried him. Another man who was with Ansell (it is not known whether he was a white man or a Malay) was also killed. The ketch was robbed of her trade tobacco, prints, &c., denuded of everything of any value, and then burnt. Her Majesty's ship Rapid had gone to investigate the affair, Captain Robinson, part owner of the ketch, being on board.

WORKING MEN'S CLUBS.

At the Worship-street Police Court John Jones, 42, and Alfred Carter, 29, described as French polishers, refusing their addresses, were charged on remand with having been concerned with others in assaulting James McDonald, a grocer, of Priory Park-road, Kilburn, and robbing him of about £11 in gold, and Richard Tice, 40, a cabman, was also brought up charged with complicity. Mr. Purcell, barrister, defended Jones. The prisoners were before the court last week, when the prosecutor said he was one o'clock in the morning in Curtain-road, Shoreditch, and went to a cabman on the rank and said he wanted to be taken to Kilburn. The cabman induced him to go to a place called the Rivington Club, Rivington-street, Shoreditch, and there he treated the cabman and others. He also admitted that he tossed for drinks, and on finally leaving the club, of which he was not a member, he found that he was followed by a number of men who on the steps of the place attacked him, and whilst some held him others pocketed his pockets and stole £11 in gold. Jones was principally spoken to by the prosecutor as the leader in the attack, and the prosecutor said that he had plenty of money at the time he ordered the bag. Mr. T. Lumley appeared to prosecute; and Mr. Bathurst Norman for the defence.—Mr. Densham, manager to Messrs. Leathers of Piccadilly, gave evidence as to the prisoner negotiating for, and subsequently ordering, a bag of him, worth £91. It was taken to the Hotel Metropole a few days ago, and left there, on the understanding that the money would be forthcoming at once, but it had not been paid. When Mr. Densham called on the prisoner, the latter showed him Messrs. Thornhill's bag, and stated that he had obtained it on approval. He said he could sell it for £45 and make a good profit.—Mr. Zimmerman, Messrs. Thornhill's manager, on being recalled, said in cross-examination that he did not know the "Count de Rivier" was an assumed name. He made no inquiries about the prisoner at the time he parted with the bag. He did not know that he was in receipt of £1,000 a year, but he had heard a letter to that effect read at the station.—Mr. Lumley said he had another charge to prefer, and should like a reward for that purpose.—Detective-inspector Stroud also asked for a remand, as the police had received many complaints about the prisoner.—Mr. Norman said his client was well connected, and could, no doubt, find substantial bail.—Mr. Newton granted a remand, fixing the bail at two months in £300, and the accused himself in £1,000.

COUNTERFEIT COINS AT ISLINGTON.

George Times, 36, decorator, giving an address in Stamford-street, Blackfriars-road, and James Carney, 29, a spring-maker, of London-road, Liverpool, were brought up, on remand, at the Dalston Police Court, charged with being concerned together in knowingly uttering counterfeit coin.—It may be remembered that on the 19th the prisoner Carney entered the Northampton Arms, Essex-road, and in payment for a glass of ale tendered a florin, which was subsequently found to be counterfeit. Carney was followed by Henry Stevens, the barman. He was seen to join Times, and after they had looked into several public-houses the police were informed and Carney was arrested. Times went out and was pursued by Stevens, who saw him enter a news, where six counterfeit coins were subsequently found concealed. Times was also arrested, and then the men, as they did now, denied all knowledge of each other

LAST WEEK'S LAW AND POLICE.

Middlesex Sessions.

(Before Mr. Waddy, Q.C.)

A "FRIENDLY" DISPUTE.—Araxia Framontius surrendered to his bail in answer to an indictment charging him with maliciously wounding Antonio Cassini. Mr. Abram prosecuted; and Mr. Paul Taylor defended.—The prosecutor, who is a "music worker," stated that he was in a wine-shop in the Clerkenwell-road on the 25th of November, and while there the prisoner came in and took a seat at the same table. He told the prosecutor that he wanted to make up the little difference which existed between them, and accordingly they drank together, but after a short time they commenced quarrelling. The prosecutor then left the house, followed by the prisoner, who struck him a blow with a bottle and knocked him down. The prisoner then jumped on him, bit him in the lip, and spit the blood in his face. The prosecutor got up and staggered about fifty yards, when he was knocked down again and rendered insensible.—Dr. Miller, after describing the nature of the prosecutor's injuries, stated that the wound on his lip might have been caused by glass, but certainly not by a bite.—The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was discharged.

City Summons Court.

OMNIBUSES IN THE CITY.—SOME POLICE MISAKES.—Thomas Allright, omnibus conductor, was summoned for delaying his omnibus in Princes-street. Police-constable Henry Brown gave evidence that the defendant delayed for four minutes, but he had only summoned him for three minutes, as he took up several passengers.—Defendant said he took up nine passengers, and he stopped no longer than was necessary. The constable never told him he should summon him, or warned him that he was doing wrong, but an hour and a half afterwards, when he was on another journey, the constable came to him and told him he should summon him. When asked why he did not say so at the time, he replied, "To prevent you getting any of your passengers as witnesses." It was, defendant urged, very hard upon him if he was to be summoned for nothing and told nothing about it at the time, and so prevented from getting any witnesses.—The constable said this was the defence defendant generally set up.—Alderman Cotton: I think there is a good deal in it.—Defendant said he had been a conductor for seventeen years, and he now had a clean license.—Chief Inspector Egan said defendant was summoned only a week or two ago.—Defendant: Yes, but the summons was dismissed, it being proved that I was not to blame.—Alderman Cotton said he thought the time defendant stopped was only reasonable for taking up the passengers, and the constable, if he intended to summon him, ought to have told him so, and given him the opportunity of getting witnesses. He should dismiss the summons.—In another case the constable was confused as to the correct date on which the man summoned delayed his omnibus, and the alderman dismissed the summons.—Another conductor had been summoned for overloading his omnibus when he ought to have been summoned for delay; and another who should have been summoned for delay was summoned for overloading. Both these cases were dismissed.

Mansion House.

PICKPOCKETS IN THE CITY.—William Armstrong and John Hunt were charged, on remand, with attempting to pick pockets in the City.—Detective Holmes deposed that at about four o'clock on Tuesday he was in St. Paul's Churchyard, accompanied by two other officers. Owing to their suspicious movements the prisoners were watched, and Armstrong was seen to force his way into a crowd and put his left hand into the folds of a lady's dress, at the same time being covered by Hunt. The prisoners then went down Ludgate Hill, where a lady was carrying a bag. Armstrong opened the bag while Hunt kept observation. They then proceeded down Ludgate Hill into New Bridge-street, where Armstrong was seen to try several ladies' dresses, always being covered by Hunt. After that they returned to Ludgate Hill, where Armstrong opened another lady's bag. The lady noticed it, and went to speak to a policeman, when the prisoners ran through Ludgate-square, where they were lost sight of for a few minutes. A little later they were again seen in Ludgate Hill behaving in a suspicious manner amongst a crowd, and afterwards went up to St. Paul's Churchyard, where Armstrong made a still further attempt to open a lady's bag, but did not succeed. He evidently saw he was being watched, and ran through Paternoster-row up a court, where he was arrested by witness. At the station he refused his address. The prisoners were watched for over three-quarters of an hour. Nothing was previously known against the prisoners, who made no answer to the charge.—The alderman advised Hunt not to keep company with a man like Armstrong. As the prisoners had already been in prison for five days, and had not been previously convicted, they would now be discharged.

Marlborough-street.

ALLEGED SHOPLIFTING.—Marie Beckerath, a German, who declined to give her address and occupation, was charged on remand with stealing some ladies' silk underclothing, valued at £5, from the establishment of Messrs. Liberty and Co., of 222, Regent-street. Mr. C. O. Humphreys conducted the prosecution.—The evidence, which was interpreted by Mr. Albert, was to the effect that on the 14th of November the prisoner entered the establishment, and after looking at some lace and other goods, ordered certain articles to be sent to Lady Comerell, at the Bath Hotel. On the next day the goods referred to in the charge were missed, and on inquiry being made at the hotel no such person as the accused could be found. On Saturday afternoon (December 15th), however, she was seen in Regent-street by two of Messrs. Liberty's assistants and given into custody. It appeared that while in the show-room the prisoner asked for some safety pins to fasten a bandage she was wearing, and it was assumed that she had pinned the missing articles under her outer dress. It was also noticed that in moving towards a seat she shuffled along as though she was holding something under her dress, while a lady's hood fell on to the floor as she moved.—The prisoner, in reply to the magistrate, said that she had no questions to ask, and that the statements of the witnesses were true.—Mr. Humphreys observed that there were several other cases of a similar kind against her, and Detective-sergeant Scott informed the magistrate that the accused had declined to give any information about herself except that she had come from Vienna. While under remand she had torn up her jacket, and would have destroyed her dress, but that she was prevented.—Evidence was then given of a similar theft, to the amount of 2s., from Messrs. Lewis and Allenby's, which the prisoner admitted was perfectly correct. She stated that she was certainly guilty of the charge, but she had received no benefit from the thefts. Everything went to the gentleman with whom she was living at Queenborough.—Mr. Newton said it would be better to remand the prisoner again for a week, and if in the meantime she gave certain information to the police, it would be for her benefit.

Marylebone.

A PAUPER "IN CHANCERY."—John Welsh, 58, an inmate of Marylebone Workhouse, was charged with refractory conduct; also with assaulting James Langridge, another inmate.—The prosecutor's evidence was that the prisoner took his discharge from the workhouse on Friday morning, and about 9 o'clock the same night he returned and went up into his ward. Prosecutor and a man named Ellis went up into the dormitory a few minutes after him, and while preparing for bed the prisoner went to Langridge behind him, and seizing him beat him about his head and body. The prosecutor shouted for help, and when Kinsman, the n^o 1 porter, went into the ward, the prisoner had got the prosecutor "in chancery"; that was to say, had got Langridge's head under his left arm, and was punching him. When spoken to by Kinsman, the prisoner threatened to serve him the same, and used very foul language. Even after a constable was fetched the prisoner made further attempts to assault the prosecutor, and while in the police-station threw his hat at him. The reason for the prisoner's conduct was explained to be the prosecutor's refusal to lend the prisoner a knife to cut up some tobacco. The prisoners had practically no defence to offer, and Mr. Hannay sentenced him to twenty-one days' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Clerkenwell.

THE CATTLE SHOW.—George Hobson, a young fellow described as a labourer, was charged on remand with having attempted to steal from the person of Fanny Hyams, a handbag and its contents, value 1s. This was one of the many cases of larceny, or attempted larceny, from the person perpetrated outside the Agricultural Hall during the progress of the Cattle Show. The prosecutrix was, however, not a visitor from the country, but resided in the neighbourhood. She was passing the hall on the evening of the 15th, carrying a reticule, when she was hustled and she found that her bag was very violently dragged. She saw the prisoner's hand on it, and seized him by the coat, calling out for "Police." The prisoner broke away and ran for some distance, but was pursued and caught. He said he did not try to steal the lady's bag, but had only opened it.—Mr. Smith committed the prisoner for trial.

Thames.

CRUELTY TO A HORSE.—William Kemp, 19, was charged with cruelty to a horse by working it in an unfit condition.—On Friday afternoon Aubrey De Vere, an officer of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was on duty in the East India Dock-road, Poplar, near the Eastern Hotel, when he saw the prisoner driving a dark brown gelding attached to a van containing about 5cwt. of provisions. He was driving at the rate of between seven and eight miles an hour. As the horse was going very lame, he stopped it, and asked the prisoner if he knew it was lame. He replied in the affirmative, but said he was in a hurry to get to the dock. The officer examined the animal, and found it suffering from a dislocation of the off fore fetlock joint.—The prisoner said it was only an overshoot joint, and that he did not think it was any cruelty to work it.—Mr. Lushington saw the horse, and said if there had been any pressure or load behind the horse when it was trotting, with an overshoot fetlock joint, it must have given it dreadful pain. He fined defendant 20s.

Worship-street.

CAB LAW—WHAT IS "PLYING FOR HIRE."—Frederick Withers, cabdriver, badge No. 12,913, was summoned for refusing to take a fare.—The complainant, Thomas Share, living in South Lambeth-road, said that at 12.35 a.m. on the 17th, he got into the first cab on the rank, in Pittfield-street, Hoxton. The defendant ran from the pavement as the driver of the cab, and witness told him to go to Vauxhall. The defendant then said that he could not drive out there as he was due home at one o'clock. Witness offered him 4s. the distance being under the six miles (according to the Act a cabman can be required to take a passenger) and all within the radius, the right fare being 2s. 6d. The defendant, however, refused to go.—The defendant was asked if he wished to put any question to the complainant, and then said that he asked the gentleman to take another cab because it was his time to go home. His master was a barber in Commercial-street, who was particular to have a cab at one o'clock.—Mr. Bushby asked the complainant if the defendant was plying for hire.—The complainant said the cab was on the stand; the defendant was not on the box.—The defendant said he had been to the public-house.—The complainant admitted that the defendant told him at the time he had been to the public-house to see after a gentleman who sometimes rode home his way. He had not been to the public-house for refreshment, as it was past the time.—Mr. Bushby, in giving judgment, said that what he had to consider was whether the defendant was plying for hire, the question being whether the fact of his cab being on the stand was a "plying for hire," the driver not being on the box. If a driver could not leave his cab on a stand without the first person that liked jumping into it and demanding to be driven somewhere, it would prevent the driver obtaining any refreshments. That was not his (Mr. Bushby's) view of the law. In this case the cabman said he was in the public-house obtaining refreshments.—Complainant (interposing): No, sir; looking for a fare.—Mr. Bushby (continuing): And the summons is dismissed.

Westminster.

THE OLD MAN AND HIS LOST £150.—An old man, dressed in a somewhat eccentric manner, who was among the applicants to Mr. D'Eyncourt, said he wanted his worship to let him have a copy of the notes of a case against his daughter which was heard at this court six or seven years ago. She robbed him of £150 which he had saved, and when charged admitted before the magistrate that she had put 47s in the bank and had put 47s in her box. She was ordered to give up the money, but did not do so. He (the applicant) got in a little bother himself through threatening to knock her brains out, and lost sight of her altogether. For years he had been trying to discover her whereabouts, and lately he discovered that she was in service at Clacton-on-Sea.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: What object have you in obtaining a copy of the depositions?—The Applicant: I think if I had the record of what took place I could get my money. I am getting an old man now, and it would be of great service to me.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: I am afraid that the clerks cannot go through cart-loads of paper to find the particular case you want, but if you can find out the date of it or anything near to it, we will see what can be done.—The applicant thanked his worship and said he would endeavour to do so.

A COOL CUSTOMER.—Charles Norman, 45, a shabbily-dressed man, described as a jeweller, of Londesborough-road, Stoke Newington, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with obtaining a steak and vegetables, beer and a cigar, of the value of 2s., with intent to defraud Messrs. Bertram and Co., of the Prince's Gate Hotel, Knightsbridge.—The manager of the hotel said that at eleven o'clock on Friday night waiter named Clements said that Norman had dined, and was unable to pay for his dinner. Prisoner made a rambling statement to the effect that his wife had money, but he had none. He was sober.—Clements, the waiter, proved that the prisoner gave his orders in the grill-room, and he finished up with a fourpenny cigar. When the bill was presented he said, "Put it down, it will be all right in a minute or two." Subsequently he said he had no money.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: Do people of your prisoner's appearance commonly dine at your establishment?—Witness: No, sir.—Prisoner: And was I not all spattered with mud?—Witness: Yes, just as you are now.—Prisoner: Now, your worship, I respectfully contend that, having had the bill delivered to me, this matter is simply a debt, a county court matter, and entirely out of your jurisdiction, sir. (Laughter.) I think I am right in my interpretation of the law. I may say that I have friends in a very good position, and am very well known.—Sergeant 3 B.R. said that on the way to the station prisoner said "It's all right. This is not my first experience, nor the second. I have been committed for trial once but I beat them then." The only witness he had about him was a pair of

worth a few pence.—Prisoner: I think I am right, they must have been fools to trust me. You see, your worship, I was dressed in this curious garb, so that if I got anything at all it might be apparel I had on trust. (Laughter.) The white lining of my cap was turned outside, as you now see it. I intend no disrespect to the court by putting on my cap. (Laughter)—and I repeat the fault was theirs and not mine. They trusted me with their eyes wide open and they can only recover in the county court. Do I look like a person who could afford to pay for my supper? (Laughter.)—Mr. D'Eyncourt: I am afraid a jury will have to say whether you intended to steal it or not.—The witness said he was a formal remand, prisoner being detained in custody, although, with the utmost assurance, he asked to be allowed out on his own recognisance.

ALLEGATION AGAINST A LICENSED VICTUALLER.—Mr. Samuel Robinson, landlord of the Old Clock House Tavern, Brompton-road, Knightsbridge, appeared to an adjourned summons charging him with assaulting a barmaid named Louise Dawson, on the 17th November. Mr. Rymer appeared for the prosecutrix; and Mr. Gill was counsel for the defendant.—The complainant was in the defendant's service, and she alleged that on the morning in question he followed her from the bar to her bed-room, and there put his arm round her waist and disarranged her dress. She admitted she made no complaint to other servants until the following day, when she left—according to her own account, because of the indignity to which she had been subjected—and when meeting a constable outside the house her first inquiry was as to whether the defendant could detain her clothes. Subsequently she made a complaint similar to that she had since made on oath. Before the defendant was summoned an interval of ten days took place, and during this time he received a lawyer's letter.—Mr. Gill suggested that there had been an attempt to obtain money, and he characterised the girl's story as absolutely false from beginning to end. It was also stated that Mr. Robinson sent the complainant away—practically dismissed her—because she did not do her work properly, and that this charge had been trumped up so that she could in some way account for being obliged to leave in such summary fashion.—A number of young persons of both sexes in Mr. Robinson's service were called on his behalf by Mr. Gill, and on every material point they flatly contradicted the complainant.—Before the case for the defence had concluded, Mr. D'Eyncourt said it was useless to go on. The girl had given her evidence with apparent truth, and he would not make an imputation upon her. But, in the face of the evidence for the defendant, no jury could possibly convict.—Mr. Rymer, on behalf of the complainant, withdrew the summons, and said that he thanked his worship for the opinion he had expressed.

Lambeth.

SINGULAR CONFESSION OF MURDER.—Edith Bailey, a woman about 30, "no home," was charged on her own confession with having destroyed the life of her child.—Inspector Payne, L Division, stated that the prisoner came to Kensington-road Police Station. She appeared to be perfectly sober, and said, "I want to give myself up to the police for drowning my child, Edith Violet Bailey, aged one year and seven months, born in St. George's Union Workhouse, Lincolnshire, in the River Thames, from Chelsea Bridge, between one and two o'clock on the morning of 21st December, 1888." The witness read the statement over to her, and she signed it. She afterwards said, "I wrapped the deceased in a shawl, and threw it from the bridge, and saw it drown." Since the charge was taken the prisoner had had two bad fits, and had said she had no home, and had come from Epping.—The prisoner was remanded for inquiries.

Southwark.

THE POLICE AND THE PUBLICANS.—Mr. Thomas W. Joscelyn, proprietor of the Admiral Vernon, Upper Ground-street, Blackfriars, was summoned, at the instance of Inspector Martin, for permitting a police-constable, while in the execution of his duty to be upon his licensed premises for the purpose of refreshment.—It appeared from the evidence of the inspector that on the 11th inst., at a quarter-past four in the afternoon, he was passing the defendant's house, in company with a sergeant, and noticing through the window the form of a constable, he entered, when he found Police-constable Stanley Morris, 234 L, in the bar. The defendant was not present, but his son had charge of the house, and he asked the constable, who had not been served with any liquor, what he was doing there, and he said he had been called in. Joscelyn, jun., was asked if he had called the officer on the premises, and he said "No."—The latter was now called as a witness for his father, and stated that the constable entered the house and asked him if he would stand a drink. This he declined to do, when the inspector entered and put an end to their conversation, and he walked away.—Mr. Fenwick was of opinion that the offence was proved; the person in charge knew that the constable was there and on duty. He indicted a fine of 40s., and 2s. costs, but ordered that the conviction should not be endorsed on the license.—George Hancock, proprietor of the Oxford Arms, Westminster Bridge-road, was summoned for a similar offence at the instance of Inspector George Semett, but the case was dismissed.

Hammersmith.

LIVELY LODGERS.—Samuel Lewis, a carpenter; Ann Lewis, his wife; Frederick Lewis, the son and Rose Lewis, the daughter, were summoned for assaulting and threatening Sarah Parkin, who resided with her husband at Esher House, Hounslow-road, Fulham. The cases were taken separately.—In the summons against the son the complainant said the defendants were lodgers. After giving the father notice to leave the son rushed upstairs, used filthy language, and struck her on the chest.—The Defendant (loudly): It is all false.—Mr. Paget: Be silent. If you interrupt the witness I shall order you into custody.—The evidence having been confirmed by the complainant's husband, Rose Lewis, a well-dressed young woman, was called up.—The complainant said she locked her husband in to prevent him punishing the lad, and rushed out for the police. The daughter came up and struck her a violent blow in the face. In the case of the mother the complainant said that while in the road calling "Police" the defendant threw stones, which struck her on the head and neck. The father was summoned for threatening the complainant the following day.—The Defendant: You threatened to cut me down with an axe.—The Complainant: I did not. You threatened to "Jack the Ripper" me.—The cases of assault were generally denied, the mother stating that the complainant was the cause of her daughter's marriage being broken off by the language she used.—The complainant gave evidence of repeated annoyances since the occurrence. The son, while she was in bed, called out about thirty times, "Oh, Mrs. Parkin! Oh, Mrs. Parkin," and when she opened the door he said, "How do you like London?"—Mr. Paget said there was practically no defence. He fined the mother, son, and daughter each 40s., with 2s. costs, or fourteen days, and ordered the husband to find two sureties in £20 each to be of good behaviour for a month.

PARAFFIN LAMP FATALITY.—Mr. Hicks, deputy Southwark coroner, held an inquest at St. John's Vestry Hall, Fair-street, Horsleydown, concerning the death of Charles Robert Reynolds, aged 71, living at No. 62, Gainsford-street, Horsleydown, who died from the effects of burns.—John Taylor, who lives in the same house, deposited that on the 3rd inst. he and his wife, deceased, and another man were sitting in the room, when by some means the lamp was alight on the table was overturned. Witness and his wife went to bed, but directly afterwards, noticing a smell of fire, he went downstairs, and saw the deceased lying on the ground with his clothing on fire and several articles of furniture were alight. Witness put out the fire and the deceased, who was badly burned, was taken to Rotherhithe Infirmary.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

FALL DOWN A LIFT.—Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, the coroner for the South-eastern Division of Middlesex, held an inquest at the London Hospital into the circumstances attending the death of James Crawford, aged 62, a seaman on the board of the ss. Bradley, lately living at 17, West Lawrence-street, Sunderland.—Mr. James Crawford, of Seaham Harbour, Durham, identified the body as that of his father, who left Newcastle, but he could not find the prisoner until Friday night, when he found him detained at Notting Dale Station. The prisoner said his name was not Ryan, and that the woman was his wife. On the charge being read over, he said his name was Ryan, but he was never married. That morning he said she was his wife, and he went away and left her.—Mr. W. J. Vassie, assistant clerk to the Kensington Board of Guardians, said on the 13th of October

Mary Ann Ryan and two children were admitted into the workhouse. She was pregnant, and was confined on the 17th of November. He made inquiries for the prisoner and failed to find him. He reported the result to the guardians, who ordered proceedings to be taken against the prisoner.—In answer to the charge, the prisoner said he could not help leaving. There was not any food in the house, and he could not stop to see his children starving.—Mr. Paget told him that he ought to have gone into the workhouse with his family.—Mr. Vassie said it was one of a class of cases in which a woman went into the infirmary to be confined. The wife left with her children on the 30th of November.—Mr. Paget committed the prisoner for one month, with hard labour.

Stratford.

AFTER MANY YEARS.—Apecular Case.—John Blows, a carman, living at 3, Catherine-street, Silver Town, was summoned, at the instance of the West Ham Board of Guardians, to show cause why an order should not be made upon him to contribute towards the support of his four children, aged 13, 11, 8, and 7 respectively.—Mr. Knights, who appeared to prosecute on behalf of the West Ham guardians, said that the defendant, on the 28th July, 1889, went through the form of marriage with Frances Elizabeth Brackenbury, and they lived together as man and wife up till a few months ago, when a disagreement took place, and the woman was turned out of the house with her children. An order was afterwards sought for, but the magistrate at West Ham dismissed the case, the defendant setting up the plea that the marriage was a bigamous one, and that he was already married when he went through the form of marriage with the complainant.—Frederick Bastow, a relieving officer of Canning Town, deposed that on the 28th September last he was obliged to give an order for the complainant and her children for the workhouse, as defendant, who was then living at St. John's House, Victoria-road, Barking-road, refused to have them in his house.—For the defence it was contended that defendant was not aware that his first wife was alive until 26 years after the marriage; that since separating from the complainant he had paid her for the support of the children, she having had £20 during the last year from him; and further it was alleged that the complainant had committed adultery and was living with a man named Brown, who had previously charged the defendant with theft.—The chairman said an order must be made. If a man would get children he must keep them; the parish could not be expected to do so.—The parties having adjourned for the purpose of trying to come to some arrangement, and failed to agree, the bench made an order on defendant to pay £2 per week.

Dalston.

A DALSTON LOVER'S REVENGE, The Bride Cleared Off with her Trouseau.—Mr. C. V. Young, solicitor, made application to Mr. Bros, at Dalston Police Court on Saturday, for a warrant for the apprehension of a young lady. The circumstances were these:—Edward Marshall, a jobmaster of that district, had been engaged to be married to a Miss Alice Walker, a barmaid at the Clarendon, Mill-may Park-road, and since October had engaged rooms and been purchasing goods for use and also presents for the girl. On Friday they were to have been married at St. John's Church, Islington, the appointment being for 2.30. Bridegroom, said Mr. Young, were usually first at the church, but Mr. Marshall was long after that hour, and then he went in search of his fiancée. He found that the whole story she had told him as to her relatives, &c., was false,

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Dec. 22.
Their lordships met at 11.30 last night, when there were present the Earl of Kintore (on the woolsack), the Earl of Limerick, Lord De Ros, and Lord Stratheden and Campbell.

The Appropriation Bill.

The Appropriation Bill was brought up from the Commons, and the Standing Orders having been previously suspended, was read a first time, and passed through its remaining stages.

Their lordships adjourned at 11.25 until 12.0 o'clock on Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Dec. 22.

The Speaker took the chair at 12.13.

The Parnell Commission.

Mr. KIMBLE presented a petition from Messrs. Soames, solicitors, of Lincoln's Inn Fields, praying that leave be given to the proper officer of the House to attend the Special Commission, and to produce the test roll of the House of Commons from 1873 to 1888 inclusive, for the purpose of the proceedings before the Commission. He moved that the petition be complied with.

Mr. SAXTON said this was an unprecedented proceeding, and he therefore wished to ask whether any notice had been given to Mr. Parnell that the petition was to be brought forward to-day. He understood that this day's sitting was for the formal business necessary to close the session. He appealed to the Government, as Mr. Parnell was not present, that the motion should not be proceeded with in his absence, though he had no doubt that Mr. Parnell would cheerfully accept the motion.

He moved that notice be given to Mr. Parnell, and that the prayer of the petition be considered when the hon. member was in attendance.

The SPEAKER said that during the adjournment a similar petition was presented to him, and he only allowed the roll to be supplied on condition that it was accessible to both parties. He declined to supply it when the House was sitting, but suggested the course now adopted.

Mr. SAXTON said he would divide the House on the motion; and after some discussion a division was taken, and the motion was carried by 54 against 13.

Buchuanaland Police.

Dr. CLARK asked the Under-Secretary for the Colonies whether Colonel Carington was to return to take charge of the Buchuanaland Police, and whether it was the intention to increase the force by 200 men.

Colonel H. De WOOGH: Yes; that is the intention of the Government.

Registration Lists.

Mr. LAWSON asked whether the register of county electors had been published separately from the parliamentary electors by the returning officer for St. Pancras.

Mr. KIRKUS: I have no knowledge of the particular case cited. There is nothing in the statute to prevent separate registers being issued; and certainly where the Parliamentary and county divisions were the same, as in the metropolis, I see not the smallest necessity for it.

The Official Parliamentary Report.

Mr. JACKSON informed Mr. Patrick O'Brien that Messrs. MacRae had undertaken to do the official reports of Parliament without any subsidy.

The Soudan.

Mr. LAWSON asked if the Government had any further news about Stanley and Emin other than what appeared in the newspapers.

Mr. GOSCHEN: No, sir.

Mr. CHENEE asked if the Government had any information in reference to the killed and wounded on both sides in the battle before Suakin; and if the information given by the Government was correct, would they take steps to prevent any further battle of the Arabs by a system of scientific slaughter.

Mr. GOSCHEN: I have no further intelligence.

Mr. CHENEE repeated the last part of the question, and pressed for an answer.

Mr. GOSCHEN believed the House would think that the language used by the hon. member was not such as really deserved a reply, and that it conveyed an insult upon the troops of her Majesty. With regard to the specific question, he had no doubt whatever that the reports sent to the Government and communicated to the House were true, and that there was no more to be told either upon one side or the other. The first estimate made by some correspondents were arrived at, he thought, within an hour or two after the battle; but since then the dead had been buried, and there was an opportunity of collecting casualties, and if there had been great errors, they would have been submitted to the Government by the responsible authorities. He had no doubt the statements submitted to the Government were correct.

In answer to Mr. J. Kelly,

Mr. GOSCHEN said there would be a full inquiry into the circumstances under which the swords of the Hussars were broken at Suakin.

Newgate Prison.

Mr. PICKERGILL asked the Home Secretary to state the name of the gentleman who was to make inquiries in the country for the Sweating Committee, and whether the right hon. gentleman had given his consent to the demolition of the old gaol at Newgate, and if so, on what conditions.

Mr. MATTHEWS was not able to state the name of the gentleman to be employed by the Sweating Committee. With regard to Newgate Gaol, the City was entitled under the Prison Act of 1877 to have that gaol restored to them, and the City had undertaken to reconstruct on the site at their disposal a court more convenient for the public than the present court of the Old Bailey, with cells for the accommodation of the prisoners that would satisfy all requirements.

The Appropriation Bill: Keeping up the Obstruction.

On the motion for the third reading of this Bill Mr. HOWELL called attention to the rules and regulations relating to the Post Office Savings Bank, which would become law during the recess, and which, he contended, would cause serious inconveniences with regard to the withdrawal of money. He hoped the Treasury and the Post Office would be able to take lenient steps, so that the old regulations should continue in force.

Mr. JACKSON said that it had been found that the new regulations would require, in some respects to be revised, and for certainly a fortnight past the question had engaged the attention of the Treasury and the Post Office solicitors. He thought that in a short time the revised edition of those regulations would be circulated.

Mr. C. GRAHAM regretted that at this time of rejoicing the members of the House were going to separate without discussing the question of the unemployed and the distress existing among the poor in the East-end. He went on to call attention to the state of the poorer classes at Bilton and Cradley Heath, and was proceeding to describe the position of matters when the Speaker interposed and ruled his observations out of order. Mr. C. Graham then went on to call attention to the infrequency of the visits of the factory inspectors in Bilton and Cradley Heath, where there was endemic fever in consequence of the unsanitary condition in which the people worked.

Mr. STAVELEY HILL thought that Mr. C. Graham was speaking of those districts without having any knowledge of them. He (Mr. Staveley Hill) contended that the best things that could be done for the benefit of these people were being done. He went on to show that the trades in which they were engaged were not carried on in factories at all; but by families working together. In his opinion, no real remedy for the grievance would be found until some other trade was introduced in the district, as the goods that they made were imported from abroad at very low prices, which caused the people to work for exceedingly low wages.

The House was prorogued at half-past twelve until January 1st, 1889.

sure that all the members of the House would have gone to their holidays with more pleasure if they felt that they could have done something to ameliorate a condition which undoubtedly was unsatisfactory so far as a large number of our fellow-citizens in London was concerned. But until the committee on the sweating system had made their report, it would be impossible for the Government to suggest any mode of proceedings to the House for meeting any of the difficulties which had been alleged to be connected with the matter that had been raised in the course of the debate. There was, undoubtedly, a very large amount of distress in London; but there was a less amount of distress this year than last year, and it was a very satisfactory feature that there were something like 2,000 or 3,000 less paupers this year than last. The question of legislation on this matter was a most difficult problem. If public works had been started last year, as was suggested, there was a great probability that there would have been a large increase in the number of paupers. In these matters it was extremely difficult to know how to deal with them, as they might easily be intensified. He did not think that any political consideration would prevent either party in the House from doing their utmost to ameliorate the suffering of the poor. (Hear, hear.) In regard to the matter of sanitation, he stated that the Government were by means satisfied with it; and they were doing everything in their power to remedy the evils that existed.

Mr. CALDWELL drew attention to the manner in which the grants in England, Scotland, and Ireland were disposed of; and contended that the Government should establish a principle of nationality in regard to the distribution of money between the different countries. After some remarks from Dr. Clark, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Carew, and Mr. Waddy calling attention to matters which they considered grievances in Irish administration, the **SOLICITOR-GENERAL FOR IRELAND** replied to their allegations.

Mr. J. O'CONNOR said all the constabulary force and the resident magistrates in Ireland were nothing but organised and armed ruffianism, and the Irish government defended acts of tyranny that would have created resentment and retaliation in any other country.

Colonel NOLAN maintained that one crying evil in Ireland was the want of university education. Mr. GOSCHEN had long taken great interest in university education in Ireland; and believed that if that and public works were improved there would not be so much need for the police. He taunted Mr. J. O'Connor on his speech, the object of delivering which was to get it printed and published in Ireland where it would not have a restraining effect on the people.

The Appropriation Bill was read a third time, and the House adjourned at 4.30.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Monday.**THE PROROGATION.**

Their lordships met shortly after noon, when the Royal assent was given to a number of public and private measures, including the following Acts:—Consolidated Fund Appropriation; Land Purchase (Ireland); Public Health (Amendment); Buildings and Streets; Oaths; Small Debts and Distraints (Ireland); Local Bankruptcy (Ireland); Victoria University; Companies' Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845 (Amendment); Land Charges Registration and Searches; Patents; Municipal Funds (Ireland); Sea Fisheries Regulation; Sand Grouse Protection; Suffragans' Nominations; Statute Law Revision; Employers' Liability; Liability of Trustees; Crofters' Holdings (Scotland); Solicitors' Probate Duties (Scotland and Ireland); Preferential Payment of Wages; Lieut. Law Amendment; Friendly Societies Act (1875) Amendment. The commission was composed of the Lord Chancellor, Lords Kintore, Coventry, Colville of Culross, and Esher.

The Speaker of the House of Commons, attended by the sergeant-at-arms and numerous members of the "faithful Commons," attended the bar of the House. The only peers present besides the commissioners were the Duke of Bedford, Lord Belmore, and the Earl of Limerick. Several of the members of the Lower H. C. occupied seats in the gallery.

After the Royal assent had been given to the various bills, the Lord Chancellor read as follows:—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My LORDS AND GENTLEMEN.—I have great satisfaction in being able to release you from your protracted labours. My relations with all foreign Powers continue to be friendly. I regret that the convention which was concluded between myself and the President of the United States for the adjustment of the questions which had arisen in reference to the fisheries in North America waters has not commended itself to the judgment of the Senate of the United States, in whom, according to the constitution of that country, the power of ratification is vested. The temporary arrangements, however, which have been adopted will, I trust, prevent any immediate inconvenience arising from this decision. The conference which has been held on the subject of bounties upon the exportation of sugar has been brought to a satisfactory issue by the conclusion of a convention for their abolition, which has been signed by the representatives of most of the sugar-producing countries. The restoration of Egypt to a condition of political and financial security has not such as really deserved a reply, and that it conveyed an insult upon the troops of her Majesty. With regard to the specific question, he had no doubt whatever that the reports sent to the Government and communicated to the House were true, and that there was no more to be told either upon one side or the other. The first estimate made by some correspondents were arrived at, he thought, within an hour or two after the battle; but since then the dead had been buried, and there was an opportunity of collecting casualties, and if there had been great errors, they would have been submitted to the Government by the responsible authorities. He had no doubt the statements submitted to the Government were correct.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS—Monday.

The Speaker took the chair at 12.13.

There were only about thirty members present, soon Mr. Brougham Esq. established Mr. Cadell.

WINNERS ON THE TURF.

The creation of new prizes like the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park and the Lancashire Plate at Manchester, each worth a clear £10,000, has

necessarily had the effect of making the winnings of certain owners of horses appear at all events to be larger than before, though in reality the money won represents to a considerable extent the entrance fees and stakes of the competitors more than any genuine addition from the race funds. Taking the figures, however, for what they are worth, it will be found (says the Times) that two owners occupy a position almost exactly the same, these being the Duke of Portland and Lord Caithorse, each of whom has won close upon £27,000, or a clear £10,000 more than was secured by any owner last season. The Duke of Portland is rather the best of the argument, for he has won nineteen races, worth £26,812, with a smaller stable than that of Lord Caithorse, who has won twenty-two races, worth only £22,845. The Duke of Portland, though so fortunate as to win the Two Thousand Guineas and the Derby with Ayrshire, has to thank that two-year-old Donowen for his success, as the eleven races won by that remarkable two-year-old brought in a total of £16,487, or nearly double the amount won by Ayrshire in his four successful efforts. Had Ayrshire been first instead of second to Seabreeze in the Lancashire Plate, Lord Caithorse would have not been within £20,000 of the Duke of Portland, whereas he presses him very closely for supremacy, and it is a singular circumstance that though Lord Caithorse this season won only twenty-two races, or even fewer than last, the amount credited to him is just double what it was then. He has to thank that beautiful filly Seabreeze for this, as her five victories in the Oaks, the Coronation Stakes at Ascot, the St. Leger, the Lancashire Plate, and the Newmarket Oaks, brought in upwards of £20,000, while the four victories of that good but unlucky colt Satyri added £2,139 to the total. Loscano, another three-year-old, also won Lord Caithorse five races worth upwards of £22,000, and he may be accounted almost as fortunate as the Duke of Westminster, who has won more money during the last few years than any other owner. His winnings for the last five seasons have reached close upon £80,000, the best season being that of 1886, when the achievements of Ormonde placed him at the head of the list with over £24,000 to his credit, but in one sense he may be said to have done even better this year, as he has won fifteen races worth £18,345 with very moderate horses.

The best, or at all events the most successful, of these is the three-year-old Orbit, who had the good luck to win the Eclipse Stakes of £10,000 at Sandown, besides two other races worth nearly a thousand more. Then Ossory, a full brother to Ormonde, secured four races worth £4,700; and Fleur-de-Lys, a two-year-old sister to that celebrity, one worth £2,000. The duchess also won six other races, worth £1,700, with two-year-olds by his favourite sire Bend Or, and a very wide interval separates him from the only other three owners whose winnings reached £10,000. These were Sir Robert Jardine, Mr. C. Perkins, and Mr. Douglas Baird, the two former of whom have not done so well for many years past. Sir Robert Jardine owes his success in a great measure to the many two-year-old victories gained by Sweetbriar, Fitztravers, and Duncraggan, though the three-year-old Stronvar placed £1,610 to the credit of the "blue and silver braid." Mr. C. Perkins, whose stable and feather dealer, of Northampton, who died from injuries caused through a fall hat that he was wearing coming in contact with the top of a doorway. Passing from one room to another in his own house, he struck the top of his hat against the lintel of a doorway, and forced the hat further on his head. As he suffered considerable pain, medical aid was summoned, but he succumbed to injuries to the brain, caused by the compression of the skull by the hat. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

A FATAL TALL HAT.

The Northampton borough coroner inquest this week on the body of Alfred Preston, feather dealer, of Northampton, who died from injuries caused through a fall hat that he was wearing coming in contact with the top of a doorway. Passing from one room to another in his own house, he struck the top of his hat against the lintel of a doorway, and forced the hat further on his head. As he suffered considerable pain, medical aid was summoned, but he succumbed to injuries to the brain, caused by the compression of the skull by the hat. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

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BENSON'S PATENT THREE-QUARTER PLATE ENGLISH LEVER "LUDGATE" WATCH.

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WITH KEELLESS ACTION. Silver, 2s.; Gold, 2s.

Sold at £1 10s. as our risk, and all parts of the world on credit of Cash, Draft, or P.O., payable at G.P.O.

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

Mr. Philip Henry Muntz, late M.P. for Birmingham, died on Tuesday at the age of 78. The number of paupers in London is 100,700, as compared with 105,352 last year.

Dr. Stubbs has been elected Bishop of Oxford by the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church.

A severe snowstorm commenced on Wednesday at Wick.

Madame Flouquet has popularised the Christ tree in Paris.

A judge of the Supreme Court in Australia goes circuit on a bicycle.

The stories as to the Empress of Russia's health are canards. She is quite well.

The occupants of the Government bench in South Australia sometimes sit in Parliament in their shirt sleeves.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and one of their daughters will visit Middlesbrough on January 23rd.

Isaac S. Dement, of Chicago, is the fastest stenographer in the United States. He recently took down 1,337 words in five minutes.

Last year 47,329,000 oysters were brought to the English markets. This season, up to November, the number was only 36,190,000.

The annual yield of oysters in the United States and Canada exceeds at the present time—so it is said—5,500,000,000 individual molluscs.

A gang of counterfeit coiners were on Wednesday apprehended at Lumphinnans, a mining village in the heart of Fifeshire.

Dubois, a pointsman, residing between Paris and Belfort, is dead. The murderer crept stealthily to his hut, and fired two shots into the unfortunate fellow.

One of the veracious stories circulating in New York is that the Duchess of Cambridge pays a well-known vocalist \$4,000 a year for singing to her every day.

Twenty-five years after the burial of \$19,000 by a Virginian, a Baltimore woman located the spot in a dream, and next day took two witnesses with her and dug up the coin.

During the first eleven months of this year, the value of the pedigree horses and cattle which were exported was \$986,134, as compared with \$882,206 last year and \$231,186 in 1886.

Unfavourable rumours, based apparently on private letters, are in circulation respecting the health of the crews of German war vessels on the East African coast. One ship is reported to be returning with some malaria-stricken sailors.

The death is announced of the eldest son of the Amir of Bokhara. The prince was to have shortly accompanied a special embassy from his father to St. Petersburg, where he was destined to enter one of the Russian schools.

The annual presentation of joints of beef, amounting to some 170 stone, to the labourers on the Sandringham estate, took place on Monday afternoon in the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales and guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain arrived in Birmingham on Monday. The time for their arrival was kept secret, and there was, consequently, no demonstration. They spent Christmas at Mr. Chamberlain's residence at Highbury.

John Martin, a Chicago engineer, lodged at the house of a Mrs. B. W. Merrill. He became enamoured of his landlady. When his attentions became unbearable, and she forbade him the house, he shot her dead.

A woman's league has been formed in New Orleans. One of its objects is to look in a large and practical way after the interests of women—as to how they are treated in asylums, prisons, stores, station-houses, &c.

Seaman Valentine went into an Aberdeen restaurant and deliberately kissed the barmaid. When the magistrate fined him £2 he vehemently protested against the price put upon what he called "his innocent frolic."

The authorities at the prison in Nashville, Tennessee, discovered, concealed on the persons of convicts and in beds, between fifty and sixty knives, fifteen razors, one revolver, and three ropes.

The annual statement of the distribution of the British Army shows that we have 74,500 regular troops in India and 28,000 in Ireland. The latter figure is rather higher than it was at Christmas a year ago. The strength of the whole Army is about 211,000 men.

Inquests have been held on two children who were burned to death. A little boy, 3 years of age, at Fulham, upset a paraffin lamp, and was so severely burned that he shortly afterwards died. A girl, 6 years old, at Mile End, accidentally set her night-dress on fire, and died the same day from the injuries she received.

General Boulanger has definitely declared his intention of offering himself as a deputy for Paris in the place of the late M. Huile. The general says he is quite confident of the result, and feels sure he will be elected by a large majority over any opponent whom the Government may bring forward.

At Glassoughton Colliery, near Normanton, a serious accident occurred. Ten miners were descending the shaft in a cage, when the return cage struck the gearing, and the men going down were thrown upon the grating at the bottom of the shaft. Five miners were seriously injured, and several others had narrow escapes.

As two gentlemen, attended by Archibald Munro, were out shooting on one of the Sallachy Hills, Munro was accidentally and fatally shot. The contents of one of the guns striking him in the knee. Sallachy is some distance from Inverary, and Munro expired as soon as he had reached home from the severe shock and loss of blood. He was 29 years of age.

The Ada, a vessel plying from Exeter to Harwich, was wholly wrecked near Abbotsbury, Dorset, on Thursday. The whole of the crew was lost, together with the cargo, which was composed of petroleum. Nearly the whole of the cargo has come ashore, and also a piece of timber with the name of the vessel rudely and evidently in haste carved upon it.

Thaddeus Harris, a private soldier in the Cameron Highlanders, was at Aberdeen sentenced to four months' imprisonment for theft committed in November last. At the time of the theft a detachment from the regiment was stationed at Ballater as the Queen's body-guard during her stay at Balmoral, and the allegation against Harris was that he stole £22 from a tradesman in the village inn.

Arrangements have been commenced amongst the leading rifle shooting organisations of the United States for a strong team of American marksmen to visit England next July, in order to fire a match against the best English riflemen at the site of the next prize meeting of the National Rifle Association. It is now several years since the first American team appeared at Wimbledon and suffered a defeat by the British riflemen.

The commander of the troops quartered with the Duke of Sutherland's property in Assynt, on the west coast of Sutherlandshire, where the military expedition was sent last winter, to 330 craters they have given an average reduction of about 6 per cent. on their rent, and have cancelled about 33 per cent. of their arrears. These are the smallest reductions made by the Commission on any estate in the Highlands.

A plant of a boat has been washed ashore a few miles from Bridport, upon which, apparently cut with a knife, were the words, "Ada, sprung a leak. Tried to get to Portland. Send this to Harwich. Layres, mate. Heavy sea. Foundered of Portland. Took to boat, expect all four to perish." Since this discovery 200 barrels of paraffin, presumably part of the Ada's cargo, have been washed ashore at the same spot. There are

Ada, but the wrecked vessel is most likely the ketch hulk Ada, 120 tons, belonging to Harwich. Mr. Kelly, M.P., was released from Sligo on Monday.

Pending the arrival of the new Spanish ambassador, the First Secretary of the Embassy, Don José de la Riva, will act as chargé d'affaires.

M. Zacharias Stoyanoff, the Ministerial candidate, has been elected President of the Bulgarian Sobranie by a large majority.

The Queen's Christmas alms have been distributed at the Royal almonry, in Craig's-court, to over one thousand poor persons from the various parishes in and around London.

The stories as to the Empress of Russia's health are canards. She is quite well.

The Queen has accepted the Grand Riband of the Legion of Honour as a pledge of the good relations existing between her country and France.

According to a Vienna correspondent the Bulgarian Government is negotiating with Messrs. Krupp for 80 new batteries. A contract for

£2,250 for 750 wolves in 1886, and £2,820 for 900 in 1885.

The death is announced from Martigny, in Switzerland, of M. Boë, the agent de change who recently absconded from Paris.

The armoured battle ship Bellerophon, Captain Bouvier F. Clark, is to be recommissioned for another term of service as flag-ship on the North American and West Indies Station.

The Queen of Madagascar has accepted the Grand Riband of the Legion of Honour as a pledge of the good relations existing between her country and France.

The future Duchess of Newcastle—Miss Candy has strong High Church views, and is anxious to use any influence she possesses in that direction.

A Central Pacific train has been robbed in the Sierras of several thousands of pounds by a gang of thieves.

The death is announced from Naples of Signor Manzini, the well known advocate and member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies.

Six persons went out for a sail in San Francisco Bay. There was a sudden gust of wind. Six families in the city are bereaved.

An exploding lamp set fire to the steamer Erichsen, near Seattle, Puget Sound. Seven lives were lost, while twenty-six persons escaped, some of these, however, being injured.

The town residence of the Earl of Strafford in St. James's-square has been purchased. It is to be converted into a lodging-house for single gentlemen.

Alice Dawson fell into the Foss at York. A man named Dunlop jumped in to her rescue. Both were drowned. Poor Dunlop had only been married three weeks.

There have been 248 deaths of members of the Society of Friends in the United Kingdom during the year. This is a number considerably less than for some years.

Old boots and shoes, steamed to pulp, are now in New York converted into the soft, stamped, ornamental leather so popular for artistic book-binding.

Robert W. Page, employed in an Atlanta, Ga., slaughter-house, met a horrible death. He fell into a large kettle used for scalding hogs, and was boiled almost to a jelly, his body having remained in the water nearly an hour.

There should be no lack of doctors in the United States, if the number be at all proportionate to the facilities for doctor-making. There are in the republic 116 schools of medicine. In England there are only five-and-twenty.

An odd book soon to be published in New York is to contain a catalogue of the very wealthy men of the States. About forty years ago a similar book was printed, and the standard of wealth was then fixed at \$100,000. Now it is \$1,000,000.

They have been experimenting with a new powder at Yonne. It increases the velocity of the bullet one-fifth; it is smokeless, and can be steeped in water for twenty-four hours without incurring the slightest damage.

Lawrence Richard, a man living at Kansas city, was asked why he shot at his wife, who was then at death's door. "Because she is in good health," said the envious wretch—who was in a hopeless consumption.

"Are you guilty?" was the song Mr. Alfred Vance, the well-known comic vocalist, was singing at the Sun Music Hall, at Knightsbridge. Suddenly he staggered off the stage. In a few minutes he was dead—before he had been driven to St. George's Hospital.

This is why Secretary of State Poltrotzoff has been summarily dismissed by the Czar. Instead of being present at the opening of the Imperial Council in his official capacity, he accepted the invitation of a grand duchess to prolong his stay in Paris.

Sir A. Rollitt, M.P., is an enthusiastic supporter of Mr. Blundell Maple's bill, which would reconstitute the London School Board on the basis of one member for each electoral Parliamentary division of the metropolis, and two for an iron post, splitting his head in two from crown to neck.

Much consternation has been caused at Maclesfield and Congleton, in Cheshire, where some thousands of hands are engaged in the silk trade, by the steady rise in the price of all classes of raw silk. During last week there has been a rise of 20 and 25 per cent.

Two Russian guns, weighing 50 tons each, have been sent to Sebastopol for the purpose of being placed in the new ironclad Sinope. They throw projectiles of nearly half a ton, and their range is thirteen miles. The powder charge is 270 lbs., and the initial velocity 3,000 metres.

The calcined body of a man was found in one of the limekilns of Aqueduct-street, on the outskirts of Preston, about two o'clock on Christmas morning. It is supposed that he is sleeping near the mouth of the kiln for warmth, and that he rolled in.

So much is he—or is it this wealth?—appreciated that Colonel North, the "Nitrate King," has been pressed to take the chair at the next annual meeting of the Royal General Theatrical Fund—a request to which he has returned a regrettable negative, accompanied, as the story runs, with a cheque for £500.

Field-marshal Count Moltke received such an enthusiastic welcome from the Berlin mob while he was out making some Christmas purchases, that he had to beat a retreat by the help of a cab, the first time in his life, probably, that he had to exert to extract from him a word in regard to his prospective policy.

It is said that Lord Carrington, the present governor of New South Wales, spends £15,000 a year, in addition to his income, at Sydney. It is thus he enjoys immunity from the imputation of parsimony so readily cast upon our colonial governors.

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Marblehead is a thriving town in Massachusetts. It has had nine acres devastated, thirteen dwellings, twelve shoe factories, and twelve business houses destroyed, and suffered damage to the extent of \$50,000. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

A native was packing jute in a patent press at Calcutta, and was shut in by his fellow-workmen, who were ignorant that he was inside the box. The closing of the doors set the machinery in motion automatically, and the man was crushed to a jelly. When his comrades went to remove the jute they had a ghastly surprise.

They were declared to have fought seventy-six rounds ere the Gateshead police appeared. Their names were Joseph Forrest and Andrew McGivney. On the ground were the articles of agreement, and according to these the stakes were £10 on side. The considerate mazetrates of the borough only fined them 10s. and costs each.

Mrs. Jay Gould is said to have a private fortune of 2,000,000 dollars; 1,920,000 of this represents the accretions which have attached themselves to her dowry of 80,000 dollars. Her husband took her money when they married, and invested and re-invested and speculated with it until Mrs. Jay can now write a cheque for seven figures—and have it honoured, too.

At Bourne on Thursday, Thomas Bennett, cottager, was charged with the murder of his wife, Phoebe Bennett, on the 22nd inst. The prisoner, in his statement, admitted striking the deceased, but denied the killing. The medical evidence showed that death resulted from heart disease, due to excitement. The prisoner was committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter.

A fatal accident has occurred on the New York Central Railway, near Rochester, owing to a fast train running off the line. Twenty-five persons were injured, two fatally. In a collision on the Louisville and Nashville Railway, at Bardstown, Kentucky, two persons were killed and thirteen injured.

Judgment was given in the Board of Trade inquiry at Hull on Monday relative to the accident to the steamer Akaba, in the North Sea, on the 7th November, and loss of several lives. The court held the master in default, but, having regard to his praiseworthy conduct after the accident, only suspended his certificate for three months.

According to the Vienna Tagblatt, an inquiry has been instituted into the circumstances of the attempted explosion in the theatre in Malta when the Duchess of Edinburgh was present at a performance. The result was that a Russian official of high rank was arrested on suspicion; and the British authorities believe that they are on the track of a Nihilist conspiracy.

Even if the Panama Canal were completed, it is contended by the Sultan of Zanzibar. That is truly brutal, but less so than the old English punishment in Edward the First's time. Then the thief who stole from the lead mines in Derby had his left hand firmly nailed to a table, and everything was removed beyond the reach of his right hand except a sharp knife. To save himself from the tortures of ultimate starvation the only means left the wretched was to cut off his left hand.

A curious case of the drowning of a poacher has been investigated by Dr. Grace, coroner for West Gloucestershire, who held an inquest at Bitton on the body of Albert Hobbs, 15 years of age. Six weeks ago deceased was detected with two other lads poaching at Studley, and ran away from the gamekeeper, dropping a rabbit in his flight. He ran towards the Avon, and attempted to cross the river by means of the weir. The water was running with great force over the dam, and he was swept away. The body was recovered on Saturday at Bitton, many miles from Studley. An open verdict was returned.

The annual entertainment and dance of the members of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade at the central station took place on Wednesday night at Winchester House, Southwark Bridge-road, when a large number of firemen and their wives and friends enjoyed the somewhat rare opportunity of a social evening. The large recreation hall was brilliantly decorated. Dancing, interspersed with

without the aid of a fire-engine—which, by the way, it appears the town does not possess.

In Adelaide the church attenders are said to number one in four of the population.

The funeral of Mr. Lawrence Oliphant took place on Thursday at Twickenham New Cemetery.

The whole of the chainmakers in the Cradley Heath district do not number more than 3,000.

During the past five years 6,288,445 acres of New South Wales Crown lands have been hartered away.

King Humbert, of Italy, is a testator and a non-smoker.

The future Duchess of Newcastle—Miss Candy has strong High Church views, and is anxious to use any influence she possesses in that direction.

A Central Pacific train has been robbed in the Sierras of several thousands of pounds by a gang of thieves.

The death is announced from Naples of Signor Manzini, the well known advocate and member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies.

Six persons went out for a sail in San Francisco Bay. There was a sudden gust of wind. Six families in the city are bereaved.

A petition with 1,500 signatures has been presented to the Home Secretary in favour of the reprieve of the Tunbridge Wells murderer, Dobell and Gower, both under 18 years, whose execution is fixed for the 2nd of January.

The Queen of Madagascar was presented by the French resident on November 20th with the Grand Hibiscus of the Legion of Honour.

Sir Watkins Williams Wynn has given an allowance of 10 per cent. to his Montgomery tenants, and Mr. Bromley Davenport, M.P., also given 10 per cent. to his Calverley tenantry.

Several hundreds of workmen were absent from Portsmouth Dockyard on Wednesday. A hallday was given on Monday instead of the day after Christmas Day, and the change was not at all popular with the men.

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The Queen of Madagascar was presented by the French resident on November 20th with the Grand Hibiscus of the Legion

DESTITUTE AND STARVING IN A CELLAR.

At Westminster Police Court on Wednesday Sarah Warhurst, 19, a wretchedly-clad girl, who looked weak and ill, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt under the following circumstances:— Robert Las, storekeeper to Mr. C. Humphreys, of Knightsbridge, deposed that on Tuesday forenoon he was engaged in making an inspection of his employer's premises, and among the places he visited was an empty house, No. 32, Hebert Gate. In a coal cellar opening into the area he found the accused lying on some boards, with nothing to cover her with the exception of her dress, which was much worn and covered with mud. The girl, who seemed to be in a dazed and half-unconscious state, said, in reply to his questions, that she thought she had been in the cellar some days, and that she came there because she had no home or friends. The rain had come through into the cellar, which was very close, and smelt badly. She was given into custody really from motives of charity.—Constable Clancy, 34 R.R., said he was called to the cellar by the last witness, and found the accused "huddled in a heap" on the boards. She told him on the way to the station that she spent her last 2d. in bread and butter on the 22nd inst., when she got into the area for shelter, and that she had had nothing to eat since; also that she was formerly a weaver at Oldham, in Lancashire, which town she left in April or May last, partly on account of the strike of the mill hands, and partly because she was beaten and ill-treated by a cousin.—In reply to questions put by the magistrate and Mr. Safford, the chief clerk, the girl stated that she tramped to London, begging her way, and that she got a situation during the season as a casser overer at Cross and Blackwell's. Since she was discharged from there, she had been on the streets, and had lived in a room with a girl called "Dark Annie," in Katherine-street, Notting Hill. Wornied of her wretched life, she said that she could not go out for money, and on the 20th, as she owed the landlady 6s., she was turned out. She walked about the streets the next two days, and late at night took shelter in the cellar.—Dr. Francis Pearce, divisional surgeon of police, who was sent for to examine the girl by direction of the magistrate, said she was in a very miserable, nervous condition. She had a nasty wound over the left ankle, the result of a fall, and this was in a bad state through neglect. It would take at least a fortnight to heal. She was weak from want of food, but not so prostrated as might have been expected from so long a fast.—Constable Clancy remarked that she ravenously ate some stones which he bought her on the way to the station. She was so weak then that he had to bring her to the police-court in a cab. She said that her parents were dead, and that her cousin at Oldham knocked her about because she did not bring home enough money from the mill.—Mr. D'Eyncourt commended the police-constable for his humanity, and ordered his expenses to be refunded out of the poor-box.—The girl was sent to Kensington Infirmary, and her recognizances accepted to appear at the court in a fortnight's time.

THE END OF A CHRISTMAS PARTY.

At the Westminster Police Court on Wednesday, John Anderson, 33, draper's assistant, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with violently assaulting William Connan, a boot cutter, at 29, Upper Manor-street, Chelsea. The prosecutor had both eyes badly blackened, and the right one was con- fused and almost closed. His mouth was cut, and his clothes and shirt bespattered with blood. He deposed that he was asked out to a party on Christmas night, at 29, Manor-street, Chelsea, and for some time everything went on comfortably. They had singing and other amusements. Shortly before midnight one young lady complained that she had lost her earring. Search was made for it, but it could not be found, and then the witness volunteered the observation that any gentleman in the company was keeping it. He deserved a good hiding. He was seated in a chair quietly smoking a cigar when he made this remark. The prisoner jumped up, shouted out that he had the earring, and that the witness had better give him the money. Before any one could interfere he rushed at him (the prosecutor), gave him a most violent blow on the mouth, loosening his teeth, and as he fell on the ground with the fractured chair, gave him a fearful kick in the eye. The expensive glasses he was wearing were broken, his clothes torn and spattered with blood.—Mr. Samuel Church, house-decorator, said he was the landlord at 29, Upper Manor-street, and he gave the party. There were about nineteen present, and they were in a very small room. They had a little to drink as might be expected on such an occasion, but there was only one intoxicated, and that was neither the prisoner or the prosecutor. When the earring was lost the witness tried to pacify the young lady who owned it, and he assured her that it would be found. The prosecutor protested against any one detaining it, and then the prisoner attacked him in the brutal manner which had been described. There was a fearful scrimmage; the lamp knocked over, things broken, and the women shrieking.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: Was the earring found?—Witness: I believe not. The prisoner, I should say, is a lodger of mine, but his conduct was most disgraceful. The prosecutor gave him no provocation.—Another witness gave corroborative evidence for the prosecution, and the prisoner said he had no witness to call. He had been drinking all day, and his impression was that he had "a fair up and a down" with the prosecutor.—The prosecutor said it was very likely he should lose his situation through his disengagement. He had to replace his spectacles and damaged clothes.—Mr. D'Eyncourt: Was the earring found?—Witness: I believe not. The prisoner, I should say, is a lodger of mine, but his conduct was most disgraceful. The prosecutor gave him no provocation.—Another witness gave corroborative evidence for the prosecution, and the prisoner said he had no witness to call. He had been drinking all day, and his impression was that he had "a fair up and a down" with the prosecutor.—The prosecutor said it was very likely he should lose his situation through his disengagement. He had to replace his spectacles and damaged clothes.—Mr. D'Eyncourt told the prisoner that it was evident he had lost his temper about nothing, and fined him 10s. and his 6d. costs, or fourteen days.

CAUGHT UNDER THE BED.

At the West Ham Police Court on Thursday, Henry Wood, 46, a labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with breaking and entering the dwelling-house, No. 71, Hampton-road, Forest gate, the residence of George William Lakeham, an accountant, and with stealing a number of small articles. —The prosecutor said that on Monday afternoon he left home with his wife and daughter, and, as there was no one in the house, he securely fastened it up. Returning home on Wednesday evening he noticed that a window in the front of the house was broken, and on going to the side entrance he observed a glimmering light in the bedroom. He went to his next-door neighbour's, and, as there was a party there, two or three went to the front of the house, and two to the back. The witness then entered the house and saw that the kitchen door had been burst open, and that upstairs the back bed-room, occupied by the servant, was in confusion, while in my articles were gathered together in the centre of the room. A neighbour who was with him suddenly exclaimed, "Here he is, under the bed." and the prisoner was secured.—Constable Ross, 551 K., said that he was called to the house, and found the prisoner under the bed in the back bed-room. When he pulled him out, the prisoner remarked, "All right, guv'nor, I'll go; I'm caught in the act." When the prisoner was searched, a child's watch and a steel chain with a socket, a silver bracelet, a silver bangle, a small pin-cushion, and a table knife were found on him. The prisoner was committed for trial.

Epp's Cocoa—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operation of the body, and by a careful analysis of the fine qualities of tea, coffee, and a deliciously flavoured beverage, which may be as many as a dozen different kinds. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually strengthened, and a person's health improved. It is a simple, strong drink, to be recommended for diseases of the heart, and for those that are flowing around us ready to attack where there is a weak point. We may expect many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—Civil Serv. & Trade, 10s. 6d. simply with boiling water or milk. Sold in packages of 1 lb. each, and in boxes. Sample by parcels post for 12d. Trade terms on a pittance to the manufacturer. The Pumperton Oil Company, Limited, Glasgow, and L. Baillie-street, London E.C.—Advert.

Another dynamite outrage is reported from Madrid, where a bomb was exploded on Christmas night at the door of the residence of Sr. Silvela, one of the leading Conservative deputies.

LAWSON'S IS THE VERY LATEST DISCOVERER.—It claims the worst sold. Even without the worry in your oil, the washings are on nutrition and by a scientific analysis of the fine qualities of tea, coffee, and a deliciously flavoured beverage, which may be as many as a dozen different kinds. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually strengthened, and a person's health improved. It is a simple, strong drink, to be recommended for diseases of the heart, and for those that are flowing around us ready to attack where there is a weak point. We may expect many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—Civil Serv. & Trade, 10s. 6d. simply with boiling water or milk. Sold in packages of 1 lb. each, and in boxes. Sample by parcels post for 12d. Trade terms on a pittance to the manufacturer. The Pumperton Oil Company, Limited, Glasgow, and L. Baillie-street, London E.C.—Advert.

THE MURDER NEAR SLOUGH.

At the Bucks Petty Sessions, held at Slough on Wednesday, William Alfred James, aged 23, labourer, was charged with murdering Charles Dance, a coal dealer, on December 21st, at Chalvey, a village between Salt Hill and Eton College. The affair was reported in last Sunday's People.—Edmund Higgins, a labourer, living at Chalvey, said he had known Charles Dance for nineteen years. He was a coal merchant, and lived at the same village. Witness had been in deceased's service, on and off, about six years. His business premises were about 100 yards from his dwelling-house, and he rented them of Mr. Lines, of the Foresters' Arms, which adjoined the house. Witness was at work for deceased on the 21st of December, and he last saw him alive on the evening of that day near the stable door. Witness racked up the horse in a stable just after six. The lantern produced by Police-constable Horne was his master's property. He and his master parted at the stable door. The lantern was then in the stable, the door of which witness locked, placing the key on the sill of the window, where it was usually kept. He had previously locked the yard gate. His master went towards his house, and he went in the direction of his home, which was fifty yards away. A few minutes after seven witness left home and went round to his master's house. That was by appointment. Deceased was not at home, so witness went to Mr. Lines's, and finding he was not there proceeded on other business. Mr. Dance came to his house about five o'clock on Saturday morning, and, in consequence of what he said, he got up and went to the stable door, which he found unlocked. Being moonlight, he did not look for the lantern, and fed his horse. He then went to the yard and found the gates unlocked, with the padlock hung inside on a nail. The place where it was put was only known to himself and his master. The latter, when he left witness, would have passed the gate on his way home. Deceased lost four fowls about five weeks ago from the yard. Twelve were left, and they roosted under a shed. On the 21st instant there were only eleven. Mr. Dance having killed one for himself. On finding the yard gates open he looked round towards the chaff-house, when he saw his master lying athwart the barrow. Witness took hold of his hand and found it cold. He got a light, looked round his face, and saw that his jaw was battered in, and that he was dead. Witness blew out his light, and went for Police-constable Horne. It was half-past five when he discovered his master. The policeman returned with him to the yard. The lantern was found in the chaff-house. At the same time he discovered his master's hat on the hay about two and a half yards from the body. Witness had known the prisoner from a child. He lived at Chalvey, and within a hundred yards from the deceased's coal premises. Prisoner had been employed by Dance in the haymaking time, and he had seen him several times in the yard where the implements were kept. The place where witness left his master was on the "draw up" in front of the Foresters' Arms.

What the Prisoner's Landlady Says.

Sarah Ann Moody, of High-street, Chalvey, said her husband was a blacksmith. Witness had known the prisoner about three years, and his mother lived next door to her. Prisoner came to lodge with her about two months ago. Prisoner came home on Friday night about half-past five to his ten, went out at ten minutes to six and returned at ten minutes to eight. He was not in the house five minutes before he went out again.

When he came in he stood at the stairs, pulled off his shoes and his jacket, put some more boots on, and threw those which he had taken off on the floor, putting them toes downwards over the grate. He then washed himself and threw the water into the drain. He went out at five minutes to eight and returned at ten minutes to ten. He owed her £6. 6d. on the 21st of December. She asked him for it on Friday morning, when he said he had not got a half-penny. When he came in at ten minutes past ten he paid her eighteenpence, and she saw he had other money. On Saturday morning prisoner returned about five minutes after leaving, and called upstairs. "They have been round poor old Dance dead in his yard; died suddenly." Witness got up and came downstairs, but James had left. He returned soon after nine o'clock. His mother asked the prisoner if the deceased had died suddenly, or was murdered. Prisoner replied, "They have got my house." and went up the passage between the two houses. His mother followed him, and they went round to witness's back door. Witness asked prisoner if they had really got his jacket, and he said, "If they come to know where I was at that time, say I was not out till after eight." That was while he was having his breakfast, and his mother was present. The latter went out and the prisoner followed. Before the prisoner came home to breakfast witness had a conversation with her neighbour Mrs. Howe, and she pointed out to her two lumps of blood on the ground, the place where the prisoner had emptied the pail the night before. Witness also saw drops of blood from Mrs. Howe's washhouse to the back door. Mrs. Howe swept away toe clots and drops of blood, and witness rinsed the place with water. Superintendent Dunham brought the prisoner to witness's house in the middle of the day. Prisoner winked at her several times, but she did not know the meaning of it.—Superintendent Dunham asked the bench at this stage of the proceedings to remand the prisoner for week, and the application was granted. As James quitted the court he turned towards the magistrates and exclaimed, "A happy New Year to you when it comes."

BOXING DAY.

Bright, sunnier-like weather prevailed in the metropolis and suburbs during a portion of Wednesday forenoon, but about midday the sky became overcast, and rain fell heavily for three or four hours with but little intermission. From the South Coast it was reported that the weather was remarkably mild, with occasional showers. The slopes of Beachy Head, which were on Wednesday frequented by scores of visitors from London, bore quite a Junesque, many of the wild flowers being in full bloom. On the other hand, a telegram from Wick states that snow had fallen there, and that severe weather was expected. So far as available statistics can prove the point, the number of railway excursionists to the various places of resort does not appear to have been quite so large as in previous years.

According to the returns of the South-Eastern Railway, 1,241 passengers were booked to Greenwich, 1,015 to Gravesend, 1,327 to the sea-side, and 34,000 to other stations up to noon on the three days of the present week. Of the total of 37,573, only 5,888 were carried on Wednesday. The principal bookings on the North London Railway were 1,300 to Chalk Farm (Zoological Gardens), 650 to Hampstead Heath, 500 to Kew and Richmond, 2,000 to Highbury (for the World's Fair, Agricultural Hall), and 150 to Kensington (Olympia). Over 1,200 persons passed to and from the Great Eastern Company's Charing Cross line by means of an interchange station at Hackney. At the Crystal Palace 24,823 visitors were admitted, as against 23,197 on Boxing Day of last year. Other returns show that 19,882 persons passed the turnstiles at the Winter Exhibition, Olympia; 15,554 at the People's Palace for East London; 9,409 visited the South Kensington Museum; and 6,118 the Natural History Museum.

The New Year is slowly ending, Leaving us 'neath mem'r y's smile, O'er the earth sweet wishes sending, Rend'ring hearts so glad the while. Ending year, let us borrow Now from thee thy joys again, Chas away all thoughts of sorrow, Every thought of joy remain To mem'r dear.

As the year is slowly dying, Now let us glad wishes send, Dear and sweet soft tones replying Their brightness lend. Jingling bells now brightly ringing, Every care now vanquished flies, Soft 'n' sonorous tones, with fancy bringing Sweet hopes as the old year dies. In our fancy belts are saying, Ever in their swelling, swaying—

"A glad new year we wish to all, To all those dear, Both far and near.

WRECKED IN THE BAY OF BISCAY.

A Terrible Night.

The survivors of the steamer Storm Queen, belonging to Newcastle, were landed at Dover on Wednesday evening from the Norwegian barque Guinare. The Storm Queen was lost in the Bay of Biscay on the 22nd instant, with the captain and five of the crew. The survivors, twenty-two in number, when rescued were in a very exhausted and destitute condition. Their narrative shows that the vessel was on her way from Sebastopol to Rotterdam with a cargo of grain. Soon after entering the Bay of Biscay on the 21st inst. they experienced a heavy gale, the sea being described as running mountains high. The vessel became unmanageable, and ultimately the captain gave orders to man the boats. One was smashed before leaving the vessel, and the remaining two could only get away with great difficulty. The captain, Mr. Jaques, refused to leave the ship, although the boats stood by her for several hours. Five of the crew, who could not be induced to leave the vessel, also remained, and they and the captain perished, after having tried to save themselves by means of a raft. An attempt was made by the survivors to reach the raft, but before they reached it the whole of the men were washed off. After being washed about by the sea until the morning of the 22nd, the Storm Queen was seen to sink. The survivors were landed at Dover were taken to the National Sailors' Home, where they were well cared for, and after their immediate necessities had been attended to, they were forwarded to their destinations, most of which were in the North of England.

The Chief Officer's Story

Francis Eliot, the chief officer, who was suffering from injuries sustained in the disaster, states:—The Storm Queen carried twenty-eight hands, all told. On the evening of the 21st December we ran into a terrific north-westerly gale. The sea was tremendously high, rolling like as many mountains. The waves swept the ship from stem to stern constantly; one tremendous sea struck her with such violence that her cargo shifted, and put the vessel on her beam ends. We made every possible effort to trim the ship, but soon found the ship leaking in No. 2 hold and the bunkers. She gradually listed further over, and the inrush of water increased. I set the men to work at the pumps, but the vessel tilted too rapidly. Finding that it was useless to attempt to do anything further, I saw to the boats. The captain told every one to try and save themselves, but exhorted us to be cool and steady. We launched one boat safely with nine hands in it. We had three boats on board, but the sea had smashed one to pieces like so much matchwood. We could not get the other out for some time, and when we did get it over the side it had to be shoved off without the crew. The only resource left us was to jump overboard and swim to the empty boat, which many of us did. It was a most thrilling spectacle to see the men jump off one after another into the fearful seas, not knowing whether they were going to a watery grave or whether providence would aid them to reach the boat. I was in the water for forty minutes before the boats were able to find me. Captain Jaques said he would not leave until he saw that every one was safely off. There were five others on board who were afraid to leap from the ship into a fair chance of the capital value increasing.

Standing on the Bridge when we last Saw Him.

Our two boats remained by the steamer from half-past ten p.m. on the 21st until between one and two a.m. on the 22nd. I found that the boats would not much longer stand the tremendous seas. We shouted to the captain and the remainder of the crew to make another attempt, but they would not do so. There were thirteen men in the other boat, but only nine in ours, and there would have been plenty of room for them. Some time after, and before daylight, we sighted a ship. It proved to be the Norwegian barque Guinare, which took us on board. The barque stayed near to the Storm Queen during the whole of the night, with the hope of rescuing the remainder of the crew. We saw the captain and men on the steamer the next morning, but the barque could not get near her on account of the gale. About 10 a.m. on the 22nd we attempted to lower a boat for the remainder of the crew. The wind was blowing with a tremendous swell; then it disappeared, and when we saw it next all the men had disappeared too. The captain of the barque used every endeavour to steer alongside the raft. It was heartrending to see the poor fellows so close, and yet we were unable to reach them. We saw the raft rise with a tremendous swell; then it disappeared, and when we saw it next all the men had disappeared too. The barque sailed about for a considerable time, but was compelled to give up further search.—A man named Thomas, the only survivor in that department, stated that the water rushed into the engine-room with great force and put out the fires. It was about eight o'clock when the water in the ship rapidly increased and became overpowering, the bunker hatches being carried away. He climbed up the rigging with several others so as to jump into the water clear of the ship. He heard the captain shout, "Keep a good heart, my lads, and you'll be saved; keep steady." He jumped into the water, and was pulled into the boat by an ear. Before leaving Dover the chief mate and the rest of the survivors invited a letter to the captain and crew of the barque Guinare, expressing their gratitude for the humanity displayed by them by rescuing them and in standing by the sinking ship in such a fearful sea, and for the kind treatment they had received from both the captain and crew on getting on board of the barque.

THE NEW YEAR.

Friends, the year is slowly ending, Leaving us 'neath mem'r y's smile, O'er the earth sweet wishes sending, Rend'ring hearts so glad the while. Ending year, let us borrow Now from thee thy joys again, Chas away all thoughts of sorrow, Every thought of joy remain To mem'r dear.

As the year is slowly dying, Now let us glad wishes send, Dear and sweet soft tones replying Their brightness lend.

Jingling bells now brightly ringing,

Every care now vanquished flies,

Soft 'n' sonorous tones, with fancy bringing Sweet hopes as the old year dies.

In our fancy belts are saying,

Ever in their swelling, swaying—

"A glad new year we wish to all,

To all those dear, Both far and near.

May blessings thick around you fall With brightest cheer,

A glad new year.

Let all with gladness sing As we our message bring,

Greeting the year, with joyous ringing,

Telling of joys the new year's bringing.

Then softly fade away,

Greeting the new year's day.

Gently the last sweet lingering knell Has passed away,

Even as moonlight silver fell.

To greet the day.

Over and past, the sweet swells

In memory stay.

Ringing, they sang their glad farewells

Then died away.

Gently the murmur ring sound of day begin

A new year's day.

Eve is past, the new year's in.

The old ye's passed away.

SIDNEY HARDMAN.

EXTRAORDINARY CAPTURE OF BURGLARS AT TOTTENHAM.

Thomas Clarke and James Ryan, both of Whitechapel, were charged at Edmonton Petty Sessions on Thursday, the first with burglariously entering the dwelling house of Mr. Gale, and the other with being an accessory to the commission of a burglary and robbery; Clarke was further charged with breaking and entering the office, 25, Cowcross-street, between the 14th and 21st of December, and stealing therefrom fourteen safe keys, the property of William Gale. The facts are of an extraordinary nature. The police authorities received information, under cover of secrecy, that on a certain day and at a given hour, as near as possible, the residence of Mr. Gale, merchant, in Tottenham-terrace, was to be "cracked"—a term used by thieves for house-breaking, and that four men would be engaged in the affair. It is presumed that the intimation was given by one of a gang of burglars who had quarrelled with his associates. However that may be, the Tottenham police were directed to take the matter in hand, and Detective-sergeant Murphy received instructions thereon. With two other officers he went to the locality indicated, and placed his men in adventurous positions outside for watching. Murphy himself entered the house, and hid himself in the dining-room under a table covered with a low hanging cloth. Here he remained for over six hours, and was beginning to think that the whole thing was a hoax, when he heard a noise at the front window of the room in which he was secreted. He had a stick in his possession, and prepared for action. The window was forced, carefully closed, and Clarke was in the apartment in an instant. Murphy at once rushed at him and seized him by the throat, the unexpected attack causing the thief almost to faint. He asked for mercy, and said that if treated without violence he would make a clean breast of the entire transaction. He submitted to be handcuffed, and then intimated where his mate was located outside the premises. It appears, also, that he spoke of two of the four who had originally joined in the enterprise having become faint-hearted, and, as he said, "turned up the job." Clarke, being rendered incapable of resistance in consequence of the handcuffs, was listened to, and in the result Ryan was found and apprehended. Mr. Gale and family were absent from the residence on a visit, the premisses being in charge of a man servant, and it is supposed that the gang of burglars ascertained that the dwelling, which contained plate and a large quantity of valuables of a portable character, was in the care of a single individual. Sergeant Murphy gave evidence to the above effect, and Mr. W. Gale said he was a saw-mill proprietor, and son of the occupier of 3, Tottenham-terrace. Witness re-sided in town. About 5.15 on the morning of the 21st he received information that his father's house was to be broken open, and he went to the Tottenham Police Station, and stated what had come to his knowledge. He then returned, accompanied by Detective-sergeant Murphy and two other officers, and they concealed themselves in a downstairs room at 3, Tottenham-terrace. After waiting there until a quarter past two, they heard a noise like a knock at the front door, afterwards a rattling of a venetian blind, and felt a current of air through the house. In a short time Murphy opened the door, and went into the front room. Witness followed immediately behind, and saw the prisoner Clarke standing in a corner of the apartment. Murphy asked him if there was any one else in his company, and, from his reply witness and one of the officers rushed out by the back door, but found Ryan in charge of Police-constable 229 N. Clarke had worked for witness's father.—Prosecutor's wife said Clarke had been employed by her husband on many occasions, and she had seen the prisoners together several times. She distinctly recognised Ryan.—Police-constable 229 N. said when he hurried from the house he found Ryan outside. Witness (who was in plain clothes) went up to him and asked if he could direct him to Edmonton, and he pointed down White Hart-lane, remarking, "I think that's the way." Witness then said, "I am a police officer. Your friend wants you," and he replied, "Is that the kind of friends he has come to see?"—As to the second case, it was alleged that the office at Cowcross-street (where safes were sold) had been entered by a person climbing the wall at the back and getting through the window. Clarke, it was said, knew where the keys were kept, having been employed by the proprietor of the establishment, and one key of fourteen different safes had been purloined.—Both prisoners were committed for trial.

A PENTONVILLE RUFFIAN.

John Sharper, 27, a basket-maker, of 101, White Lion-street, Islington, was charged, at the Clerkenwell Police Court on Thursday, with being concerned with another man not in custody in assaulting William Wallace, and attempting to steal his watch.—The prosecutor, a cook, said that early that morning he was walking down Pentonville-road, when Sharper and another man accosted him, and pointing to a coffee-stall some distance off, prisoner said, "Will you treat us to a cup of coffee?" Prosecutor replied in the affirmative; but, on reaching the stall, the men declined to have anything to drink, and requested the prosecutor to accompany them down the road. After walking with them some little distance, Sharper threw him violently to the ground and made a snatch at his watch-chain, but failed to secure his watch. Prosecutor then regained his feet, but was knocked again to the ground by Sharper, and becoming somewhat alarmed at his position he offered prisoner 2s. 6d. to let him go. Sharper accepted the money, and the prosecutor ran off. The prisoner, however, continued to follow him, but some distance off. The prosecutor subsequently met a police officer, and informed him of what had occurred.—Police-constable Selby, 213 G, said that he was on duty shortly before one o'clock on Thursday morning in Pentonville-road, when he saw prosecutor running and prisoner following. From what prosecutor told him he pursued Sharper and succeeded in capturing him. The prisoner, however, "ducked" and escaped, but after a short chase witness recaptured him. Prosecutor then came up and said (pointing to prisoner), "That is the man that tried to steal my watch."—Walter Tyrell, a warden at Pentonville Prison, said he was present in September, 1884, at the Central Criminal Court when Sharper was sentenced to five years' penal servitude and twenty lashes with the "cat" for highway robbery with violence after previous convictions. The prisoner was connected with one of the most desperate gangs that infested Clerkenwell.—Mr. Horace Smith committed Sharper for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

DEATH FROM POISONING AT SOUTHALL.

An inquest was held at Southall on Thursday by Dr. Diplock, coroner for West Middlesex, into the circumstances attending the death of Sophia Manley, aged 23 years, of Warwick Cottage, Warwick-road, Ealing, who succumbed to the effect of poison while on a visit to her sister at 15, Southall-place, Southall, on Monday.—The deceased, who suffered from epileptic fits, was in good spirits on Sunday evening and retired about half-past eleven. The same night her sister found her in her bed-room ill and vomiting. Dr. Windle, who was sent for about one o'clock, found the woman insensible, her muscles rigid, and with signs of poisoning. She died soon afterwards. A post mortem examination revealed the fact that death was caused by cyanide of potassium, and a bottle containing that poison was found in the deceased's bed-room. The doctor moreover discovered the woman to have been pregnant six months.—The jury returned a verdict of suicide whilst of unsound mind.

The measles epidemic still continues in the Potteries, and the board schools have been closed for nearly three months.

BURNING OF A MISSISSIPPI STEAMBOAT.

Terrible Scene—Men Roasted to Death.

The steamer John Hanna has been burned with the loss of about twenty lives. The accounts are, says a New York correspondent, full of horrible details. The steamer was near Plaquemine, about 100 miles above New Orleans, when the fire was discovered. It was then about midnight, and most of the passengers were asleep. The fire was discovered by a negro boatman, who gave the alarm. The steamer was laden with cotton, which was in a very dry condition, and the flames spread with fearful rapidity. They sprang from bale to bale like flashes of lightning, and shot up through the cabin and over the sides, enveloping the entire boat. The alarm had been sounded at the first sight of the fire, the whistle being blown and the bells rung, but within three minutes of its discovery the boat was one sheet of flame from stem to stern. The scene that ensued was terrible in the extreme. Men yelled and ran about the deck like madmen; others, screaming at the top of their voices, threw themselves into the river. The chief clerk, Mr. Powell, went to every door, and made certain that the passengers and hands were awake, and urged them to hurry to the bow of the boat before they were cut off. They did so, but were thrown into confusion by the darkness of the night, the blinding smoke, and their own fright. The smoke was so

Thick and Suffocating

from the high piles of burning cotton that a number of persons, in trying to force their way to the bow, were overcome by it, and fell suffocated on the deck, where they probably died before the flames reached them or the boat sank. In the meantime the crew were fighting the flames as best they could, but without success. The steam-pumps were worked, but had little effect on the fire. The flames soon reached the engine room, bursting the steam-pipes, and releasing great volumes of steam, that severely scalded several of the men, who were driven from the room. The pilot had headed the steamer for shore as soon as the alarm sounded. As she had a full head of steam on at the time, she was into the bank in two or three minutes. Then the pilot jumped out over the bales of cotton, and springing into the river, swam ashore. The captain, crew, and passengers had fought their way to the bow of the boat, getting scalded faces and bruised limbs. The majority of them sprang from the boat when she was about ten yards from the shore, and the moment she touched the rest leaped into the mud or water. The steamer rested for a moment afloat and then swung around, drifting downstream and burning until she finally sank. But although the crew had escaped from the burning boat, they were not all saved. Both the captain and Bob Smith, the famous pilot of another burned steamer, met their deaths after getting ashore. They sprang into the mud on the bank, and became fast, were

FOOLING WITH A REVOLVER.
Osvald E. Godfrey, 21, a paperhanger, of Douglas-road, West Hampstead, was charged at Marylebone Police Court on Wednesday with being drunk and presenting a five-chambered revolver at George Lewington, of Sandcombe Villa, West Hampstead, at the Earl of Derby public-house, High-road, Kilburn. —The evidence for the prosecution was to the effect that on the afternoon of Monday last the prosecutor and his brother were in the Earl of Derby public-house, when the prisoner came across to the prosecutor and accused him of being an accessory to the stealing of his (prisoner's) watch. The prosecutor was about to deny all knowledge of the prisoner or his watch, when the prisoner suddenly pulled something out of an inside pocket of his overcoat, and pushed it against his (prosecutor's) face. There was a cry of "He has got a revolver," which the landlord happened to hear, and he jumped over the bar and knocked the prisoner down, the revolver falling from his hand and rolling away. The landlord then took possession of the firearm, and the prisoner left the house. Information was given to the police, and Sergeant Mitchell, X Division, called at the public-house and took charge of the revolver. At the station he examined it, and found it to be a formidable-looking weapon, but it contained no cartridges. Half an hour afterwards the sergeant was proceeding along the high road, when he met the prisoner and arrested him. At the station the prisoner was searched, and on him was found a pawnticket showing that he himself had pawned the watch which he accused Lewington of having assisted in obtaining from him.—The prisoner, in his defence, said that it being holiday time he had rather too much to drink, but he had no intention of doing any one any harm with the revolver. He had put it into his pocket for the purpose of selling it.—De Butzen, having examined the fire, said that the prisoner admitted being drunk, and, consequently, he (the magistrate) considered that he had been guilty of the worst form of riotous conduct in drawing and presenting such an implement at a man. He sentenced him to three weeks' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Later in the day the prisoner's employer applied to the magistrate to alter his decision. He assured him that during the four years the prisoner had worked for him he had behaved very well, and, although twenty-one years of age, he was very boyish in his behaviour.—Mr. De Butzen agreed to alter the penalty to a fine of 40s.

A CHARGE OF FORGERY.
Arthur Scrivener, a butler, in the service of a gentleman residing in Bryanston-place, Bryanston-square, was charged at Marylebone Police Court on Friday, on a warrant, with, in October last, at the Vaux-street Post Office, feloniously forging and uttering two orders, each for the payment of 45s, with intent to defraud.—Mr. Freke Palmer, solicitor, appeared to prosecute, and, from the statement he made and the evidence he called, it appeared that the prosecutor and the prisoner had known each other for five years, one having been footman and the other under-butler in the service of Lord Carnarvon. In the early part of the present year the prosecutor left the service, and subsequently the prisoner did so also, they both lodged at the house of Mrs. Merritt, at Montpelier-place, Brompton. The prosecutor had the offer of stewardship on board a vessel going to the 17th of August. Prior to going, the prisoner saw the prosecutor pack up his portmanteau, and amongst other things saw him put his bank-book into it. The arrangement was that the prisoner was to have charge of the portmanteau during the prosecutor's absence, unless he should go away when he was to leave it with the landlady. Prosecutor returned to England on 9th December, and, on examining his portmanteau, he found it had been opened during his absence, and his Post Office Savings Bank book had been abstracted from it. Inquiries were made at the Post Office, and, from what was ascertained, the prosecutor went to the prison and asked if he knew anything about his (prosecutor's) bank book. Scrivener at once said he had got the book, and that he had drawn 210 out of the bank. He was sorry for what he had done, and supposed he should get five years for it. Prosecutor called the following day, and prisoner handed him the book; 45s had been taken on the 19th, and a like sum on the 26th October.—Detective-sergeant Fugley, D Division, said he arrested the prisoner at Swanfield, Norfolk.

In reply to the charge, he said he had intended to have repaid the Post Office Savings Bank officials, but he intended to have repaid the Post Office Savings Bank officials, and to complete the case, and remanded.

ALLEGED WIFE MURDER AT SUNDERLAND.

An inquest was held at Sunderland on Thursday concerning the death of Jane Rigg, aged 21, wife of William Rigg, who is now in custody charged with causing her death. The evidence showed that in August the accused got two months' imprisonment for assaulting his wife, and that on the 10th inst. some words arose between them about this. When the woman was found she was a mass of bruises and wounds, and she died on the 16th inst.—The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against William Rigg.

ATTEMPT TO WRECK A TRAIN.

At the Town Hall, Pontefract, on Thursday, Walter Bright, 17, farm servant, who comes from Great Bardfield, Essex, was charged on remand with having placed an iron chair on the Swinton and Knottingley line of railway, with intent to endanger the lives of passengers, on the 15th inst.

On the morning in question an engine-driver proceeding to York observed an iron chair on the parallel line of rails. He gave information to this at Pontefract, and the obstruction was removed just before a Great Northern passenger train came up. The prisoner was working in a turnip field near, and his footprints corresponded with those found near the rails.—The prisoner, who pleaded that he was innocent, was committed for trial.

At Halifax on Friday, Hawkesworth Jackson, late cashier of the Halifax Flour Society, was committed to the sessions on a charge of embezzling the sum of £132 17s. 4d., the money of the society. A cheque for that sum was paid by Messrs. Proctor and Sons, of Brunswick-street, Liverpool, and was said to have been received by the prisoner and not accounted for.

HOLIDAY CHARGES AT THE POLICE-COURTS.

At the Marlborough-road Police Court on Thursday, the list placed before Mr. Newton comprised only fifteen charges, out of which fourteen were drunk and disorderly and one of attempted suicide. This is about the average number for the Christmas bank holiday at this court, notwithstanding its close proximity to several places of entertainment, and the fact that a large working-class population is resident in the neighbourhood.—Mr. Partridge, at the Westminster Police Court, had a list of twenty-three prisoners to dispose of, and of these thirteen were charged with drunkenness, four assaults, and five felonies.—At the Southwark Police Court, Mr. Marsham had only eighteen night charges to dispose of, consisting of charges of drunkenness, assaults, &c. There was no case of felony.—At the Wandsworth Police Court on Thursday morning there was only one holiday charge, and at the Highgate Police Court there was no case of any kind.—Mr. Paget, at the Hammersmith Police Court on Thursday, had a list of twenty charges placed before him, irrespective of the remands, nearly all arising out of the Christmas holidays.—At the Lambeth Police Court, fifteen charges came before Mr. Biron, Q.C., all of them being of a trivial nature.—Nine cases were heard at the Dalston Police Court, and Mr. Montagu Williams expressed a hope that the defendants and others would take warning and behave themselves better in the New Year.—Only twenty-three charges were heard by Mr. Busby at the Worship-street Police Court; ten of these were cases of drunkenness, and the majority were let off with fines of 1s. There were a few cases of assault, and in one instance a man named Henry Potter, aged 21, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for striking Charlotte Miller, a flower-maker.—There were twenty-three charges for hearing before Mr. Horace Smith at the Clerkenwell court on Thursday. This was above the average for Thursdays. Eighteen of the charges consisted of drunkenness and assault, and five were felonies.

FOOLING WITH A REVOLVER.

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REPORTED EARTHQUAKE IN HAMPSHIRE.

At eleven o'clock on Friday morning Hampshire was visited with what is believed to be an earthquake. There was, it is reported, a severe subterranean rumbling and a concussion in the neighbourhood of Emsworth Common. A horse and cart passing at the time were visibly shaken, and two men were nearly knocked off their legs. There was a violent rustling of the trees in the neighbourhood. The shock is said to have extended over a wide area.

ACCIDENT IN THEATRE.

While Mr. Edmund Trelawny's Shakespearean company were playing "Hamlet" at Coventry, on Thursday night, the men in the flies lost control over the drop scene, and the heavy roller attached to it fell close to Mr. Trelawny, Mr. John Paley, and Miss Adelaide Ross. The performance was only temporarily interrupted.

MILITARY RIOT NEAR CHATHAM.

A military riot of a serious character occurred shortly before midnight on Wednesday at the newly-constructed military barracks at Chatham, in the immediate vicinity of these barracks are situated the extensive powder and cartridge magazines for the supply of the Chatham regimental district and the fort of Medway. For protecting these magazines two companies of an infantry regiment were always stationed at Chatham. The guard on Wednesday consisted of two companies of the 2nd Hampshire Regiment, under the command of Captain McLean. As far as can at present be ascertained respecting the cause of the riot, it would appear that some horse play was indulged in by two privates at the conclusion of the evening's festivities, and this leading to a general uproar in the quarters, one of the non-commissioned officers appeared on the scene and ordered the disputants to desist. This interference was resented by a large number of the men, who are said to have been labouring under a sense of injustice at being detailed for picket duty in such a remote spot as Chatham at Christmas time. The initial symptoms of insubordination were dealt with in a somewhat presumptuous manner by the officers in charge, with the result that a general mutiny ensued. In a most unprovoked manner the men set to breaking the barrack furniture, and having completely demolished the tables and forms next set up a defiant shouting. In the meantime the alarming state of affairs had been communicated to Captain McLean, who, hurrying to the mess-quarters, gave directions to the guard to turn out, and at the head of this small detachment, the captain forcing his way to the entrance summoned the men to muster outside. This command being disregarded, Captain McLean directed the guard to fix bayonets, and, leading the way, succeeded in gaining the entrance to the rooms, and, after a further faint show of resistance on the part of the mutineers, they were forced out on the parade-ground, but not before over a hundred paces of shins had been demolished, and many of the sashes wrenched from their positions. Sixteen of the ring-leaders were subsequently placed under arrest, and at daybreak on Thursday morning were conveyed by an armed escort to the headquarters of the regiment at Chatham. This unusual affair has occasioned considerable excitement in the garrison.

EATEN BY SHARKS.

Particulars have been received of the horrible death of a sailor serving on board her Majesty's ship Tyne, while in the harbour of Sierra Leone. The man was working with a copper-pot, painting the side of the ship, and while thus employed he had his naked feet in the water. He was singing snatches of a song when he disappeared so suddenly as to fairly startle the men who were working by his side. Under the impression that he had actually fallen overboard, some of his comrades were preparing to dive after him when they saw his hat coming to the surface, and, thinking that he would immediately follow, they refrained from jumping into the water. But he was not again seen, and efforts to recover the body by "dragging" the harbour failed. A day or two afterwards one of the natives were fishing near her Majesty's ship Acorn, which was in harbour at the time, when a shark took his bait and was hooked. The usual precaution was taken of "drowning" the shark before it was hauled in, and during this operation it vomited the right arm of the unfortunate man who had so suddenly disappeared from the side of the Tyne, thus leaving no doubt that the poor fellow had been dragged off the punt by the shark.